

# THE CALCUTTA JOURNAL.

OF

## Politics and General Literature.

VOL. II.]

SATURDAY, MARCH 15, 1823.

No. 64.

### SUMMARY OF NEWS.

—193—

#### Politics of Europe.

In pursuance of our established practice of publishing the Parliamentary Proceedings in the order of their dates, we give in our second sheet, an interesting debate on the measures adopted for the protection of British Commerce in the South Seas, against the depredations of the Pirates which infest the coasts of America. The complaints against Ministers for their supineness, are opposed with difficulties arising out of the relation in which they stand to Spain and her revolted colonies. Their culpable reluctance to acknowledge the independence of these rising states, while it tends to protract a sanguinary struggle and to retard the march of social improvement in the new continent, is thus also extremely prejudicial to the interests of the British Empire. It may well be indignantly asked, if the lives and properties of our merchants and sailors are to be sacrificed to legal fictions and metaphysical fallacies. Are we to look always to the French and the Americans to protect our trade? Must the National Interests suffer because Ministers are reluctant to confess the independence of the South Americans, although they are in fact free as is already acknowledged, or soon will be by all the world. Mr. Marryat, Mr. Bright, and Dr. Lushington took an important part in the debate.

*Unbelieving Parsons and Pestiferous Reformers.*—The following edifying observations appeared in THE NEW TIMES of September 13.

"A wise man will here say—assuming that religion is a fable—that the Clergy disbelieve what they preach—and that they convert mankind into fanatics, still, if religion and its Ministers make men honest and veracious in their dealings with each other, and cause them to shun crime, they are more valuable to the community than every thing else that it possesses. And assuming that the doctrines of the Reformers are just, still, if they inundate the earth with lying and knavery, they are the greatest curse that could visit it. So far as the personal comforts of mankind are at stake, the advantages are entirely in favour of religion, and they are equally so, as far as regards men's personal dignity and respectability. A fanatic may be ridiculous, but still he possesses the sterling qualities which constitute personal worth, and make men honourable. The character and property of his neighbour are safe in his hands; he wrongs not society, and he scorns vice and guilt. He is independent and courageous, and braves men and devils in the discharge of what he believes to be his duty. But what is a modern Revolutionist? A man whom no one can believe or trust—destitute of every spark of honour—a canting hypocrite, and a quaking poltroon!—stained, not only with the greatest crimes, but with the most despicable vices—and without one solitary manly quality to prevent him from ranking below the meanest of the human race."

Without entering on the very delicate investigation, how far men who believe religion to be a fable, are bound to affirm they entertain a contrary belief,—we will in turn make an assumption (we hope not too bold a one), that our contemporary is himself one of those who believe religion is not a fable. Now, if we do not wrong him by the assumption, and if we are both agreed, not only with respect to the truth, but the utility of reli-

gion, the only question between us, must be, as to the means best calculated for his extending its influence.

But in the solving of this question, our contemporary makes a very important mistake in our opinion, no less than that of confounding the abuses which oppose the progress of religion with religion itself. In proportion as we are impressed with the importance of religion, in the same proportion ought we to be anxious to render the establishment for preserving and diffusing it, as well adapted as possible for that great object.—Now surely no one will say, that non-residence, the monopoly of livings by men of family, the excessive wealth and consequent fashionable dissipation of a part of the Clergy, and the distressing state of poverty of the great body, a mode of payment which ensures constant bickerings between the Minister and his flock—can be at all favourable to religion.—Before the French Revolution, the French Bishops used to keep their Opera girls. Was that favourable to religion?—Burke even acknowledges, that he found the French Clergy very profligate in their lives, though very amiable otherwise. Was this profligacy favourable to religion? If the Stuarts had not been expelled from this country, we should have also had in due time, our *Perc aux Cerfs*, and the Ministers of religion employed in promoting the sensual enjoyments of the Sovereign, with a view to their own promotion, instead of attending to the souls of their flocks. As it is, we have been making a fearful progress of late years. Our Bench never contained so few men distinguished for learning and gravity as at this moment; and never was there so much dissipation and neglect of duty in the Clergy generally.

We often hear the irreligion in France, at the Revolution, cited as proof, that a Reform of Government is necessarily with injury to religion.—The revolutions of England uniformly favoured religion, because they were effected by the most religious men of the country. But if the French Revolutionists were not equally religious, that must have been because the Revolution found the French irreligious. The higher clergy of France used to laugh at religion, and piqued themselves on breaking loose from its restraints. It was the scandalous abuses and neglect of duty of the clergy, therefore, that made the people irreligious, and not the Revolution.

The following extract from the account given of his own life by a distinguished French Nobleman who died about the breaking out of the French Revolution, the Marshal de Richelieu, places in a striking light, the notions with respect to religion which were then entertained in France:—

"The eldest of a family who inherits a considerable estate, perpetuates its lustre and glory; he can undertake great things; he may for his part cause commerce to flourish, encourage the arts, and hold in the world the place which he ought to have. The younger children are not to be pitied and find in the Order of Malta or in the Church, an indemnification which frequently enables them to cut a better figure than the eldest. The favours of the King, which we always obtain when we can pay our court dexterously to persons in office, and especially to Mistresses, are also a great resource, and they must be fools who know not how to derive advantage from the events which are so frequently multiplied at Court. When we are embarrassed with girls, we make abbesses of them; and I do not consider them unhappy, in having the complete power over a community eager to obey them, in-

stead of vegetating in the world; and all women are fond of the pleasure of commanding. I shall be told, perhaps, that this is not their vocation; to which I answer that an abbess has sufficient liberty to temper the rigidity of the vows which she has pronounced, and to find means of appeasing desires which might rise up against them. I shall never be persuaded that she is to be pitied; I have known several charming abbesses, who knew as well as myself that there are ways of accommodating matters with Heaven (*il est avec le ciel des accommodemens.*) Those who do not wish to profit by these ways have only themselves to blame."

We have here a striking illustration of the mode in which religion may be destroyed in a country.

Now, we have again and again appealed to the northern part of this Island, where there is a Church free from the abuses to which we have been alluding; and the efforts correspond with what one would naturally expect from such a state of things. We find that a decent maintenance for the Clergy, an attention to their duties, residence, and an effective discipline, beget a corresponding attention on the part of the flocks, and a great regard for religion. No one has hinted that religion has there suffered any thing from the abolition of tithes, and the substitution of a fixed stipend partly money and partly grain in lieu of them.

But our contemporary while pretending a regard for religion, opposes strenuously all those reforms in the church which would render its members men estimable in the eyes of their flocks, and produce a greater attention to the discharge of their duties. He clings obstinately to the very things which have generated infidelity and immorality throughout Europe. His regrets are for the Spanish Inquisition, the wretches now leagued with banditti and smugglers in the north of Spain, the beings who converted one of the finest races in Europe into a nation of mendicants; he wishes to see the corruptors of morals reinstated in all their power to injure and destroy. He would see the population of Ireland, miserable and starving in the midst of abundance, and plunging into all the wild excesses which a state of desperation necessarily engenders, for the sake of putting two millions in the pockets of a Church without members.

A Government having for its object the good of the governed, and a religious establishment on a footing calculated to promote the cause of religion, are violently exclaimed against by the advocates of corruption. The abuses in the Church are dear to those who fatten on the abuses of the State—and the abuses of the State are dear to those who fatten on the abuses in the Church, because they support each other. But these fallacies can deceive no one.

Paris, September 9, 1822.—It is again reported that the Pope, is dangerously ill, a rumour which at his advanced age cannot long want confirmation. It may be said that he is only waiting for an excuse to die and the utter unimportance with which this event is contemplated in a political view, forms an instructive contrast with the supremacy which the Allied Sovereigns are endeavouring to bestow upon religion in their own States. When Napoleon, intoxicated by success, threw the management of the world into the hands of drivellers and bigots, who owed the whole of their successes to the mistakes of their adversary, their first care was to re-establish Thrones with all the abuses of the ancient despotism, to violate their own solemn pledges, and to trample down in every direction the ascending spirit of liberty and improvement; and the great Ally with whom they leagued themselves for those pious objects, they presumed, with a grave sacrilege, to denominate religion. Hence they immediately baptized themselves with the hypocritical title of the Holy Alliance. The Calmuc Dandy abandoned himself to the fanatical reveries of Madame Krudener; the King of Prussia was obliged to be indefatigable, for he went to church once a day for every perjury he had committed towards his subjects; the long-faced Francis, who told the professors of Padua that he had no need of learned men in his dominions, gave them monks instead, compelled his Italian subjects to go to church under pains and penalties, and forbade them to educate their children unless under the tuition

of priests; while his Most Christian Majesty speedily inundated his realm with black-robed politicians, under whose auspices little incipient miracles were performed, the Missionaries ferreted crazy legends out of the dust, and thrust them down the throats of their flock at the point of the bayonet, and finally all public education was placed beneath the controul of equally enlightened Monks. The Sovereigns not admitted into the august alliance were determined not to be less saintly than their royal rivals. Ferdinand accordingly, hung up his embroidered petticoat with appropriate solemnity, re-established the Inquisition, and assassinated the patriots who had restored him his Crown with a most legitimate gratitude; while his brother of Naples, still more devout, contrived to condense repeated perjuries and murders into the short space of two or three months, and crowned his treacheries with a grand sacred procession and *Te Deum*. England, happily, did not afford room for such pious manifestations; but even there it became the cant with all the partisans of existing abuses to clamour about irreligion and blasphemy when the people petitioned or Reform, while the Treasury Journals and hireling Reviews, whenever they dislike a man's politics, or cannot answer his arguments, betake themselves to the invariable, though now somewhat hacknied expedient of crying him down as an Atheist.

If the people are sometimes tauntingly told that "License they mean when they cry Liberty," they may safely retaliate that their rulers mean Despotism when they cry Religion, for they never seem influenced by its sanctions unless when it can be rendered available as an engine of power. Let the whole crew of these sanctified clamourers against infidelity, from the Holy Alliance down to a Quarterly scribbler, be judged by their private lives and actions, not their professions, and they will be gibbeted to the world as the most impudent hypocrites that ever disgraced Christianity. We see these pious Sovereigns violating oaths, and leaguing with Mahometan despots to exterminate fellow Christians because they are struggling for their liberty; and we need not advert to recent individual instances where the most enormous delinquency has been found to attach to the highest Dignitaries and loudest bawlers against blasphemy. It is the sanctionious pretenders of the higher classes who are the real blasphemers, and desecrate all religion by assuming its mask for worldly and guilty objects; while the middling and lower ranks who are avowedly more moral and virtuous, which is practical piety, are a million times better Christians than the canting knaves who, by calling them Infidels and Atheists, hope to keep them in subjection and pick their pockets.

*Lesson to Kings.*—THE COURIER has been at some pains to inform the world that his Majesty, entertains an infinite respect for the memory of the Stuarts, and always makes honourable mention of the Chevalier whom he designates as unfortunate. So far, indeed, does he carry these sentiments, as to be ambitious of possessing, as holy relics, any articles that belonged to the Pretender. We are told, that he even intimated a desire to have the Chevalier's dirk, but that the wish was not complied with by the Gentleman who had the means of gratifying it; his Majesty was, however, blessed with a knife, fork, and spoon, presented by an old Jacobite Lady, who compassionated his disappointment. While we honour his respect for the unfortunate, the true test of a generous mind, we cannot but express a hope, that it may give rise to grave reflections in the Royal breast, and that when lamenting the fate of the exiled family, his Majesty will not fail to ponder on the cause of their misfortunes, to think of the errors to which he owes his Throne. A memento Stuart would be a most wholesome mother to the King of England. A more instructive page in history cannot be submitted to the Royal eye, than the dynasty of the Stuarts—it presents a grand lesson, and we would say *nocturnâ versate manu, versate diurnâ.*

*Neapolitan Loan.*—Letters from Naples of the 25th Aug. state that a new loan to the Neapolitan Government has been contracted for by the house of C. M. Rothschild and Co. of that city. The amount of the loan is 1,000,000 ducats, *de rente*, equivalent at 5 per cent. interest, to a capital of 20,000,000 ducats. At the contract price, which we understand is 73 for one half the loan,



and 75 for the remainder, the sum received under it by the Neapolitan Government will be something short of 2,500,000, sterling. One of the Conditions of the contract is, that no more money shall be raised for three years to come. The bonds will be precisely in the same form as those previously in circulation, with dividends payable in January and July, and, as the loan has been contracted abroad, dependent on the rate of exchange. It is not expected, however, that many of the bonds will be introduced into the London market, as the list of subscribers has been principally filled up by capitalists resident in Naples itself, in Genoa, or Paris.—*Morning Chronicle*, Sept. 14.

**Melancholy Loss of Lives on the Coast of Caithness.**—"This morning (Sept 11, 1823).—A most unexampled scene of distress took place on our coast at Lybster Village. The early part of the night of Tuesday (yesterday) being uncommonly calm and serene, almost all the herring boats from the Ord to Wick put to sea—alas! how many of them never to return again. About midnight, the wind veering to the south, blew a tremendous gale; during the remaining part of the night the most intense anxiety prevailed amongst the relatives and friends of the poor fishermen, nor did the appearance of the morning tend to diminish the general distress; hardly any of the boats had been able to find shelter during the night, and but few of them, even so late as seven o'clock this morning, had succeeded in gaining the harbour of Wick, or any of the creeks to the south of it. Soon after this hour, the writer of this intelligence reached the small fishing station of Folligo, in time to witness a most distressing and melancholy scene—a boat from Forso, with four men on board, swamped within about 200 yards of the mouth of this creek, situated nearly three miles to the north of Clythness; and he is sorry to say, that notwithstanding the most earnest entreaties he could use, to induce the fishermen of that place to put off from the shore to the assistance of their fellow creatures, not one of them had the courage to stretch out a saving hand to these unhappy men, perishing before their eyes. Of the great probability of success in their enterprise, the writer entertains not the slightest doubt, as a boat, with only two oars, had very nearly succeeded in rescuing the unfortunate sufferers. For nearly an hour, or, at any rate, for some considerable length of time, he watched the boat slowly and gradually drifting on the point, the men sitting up to their waists in water, without oars, and their sail down; having apparently abandoned all hope of saving themselves, but, as it were, alternately looking to the shore for assistance, and to the two-oared boat, which, by the manly exertions of the crew, seemed almost within their despairing grasp. In a moment, however, the sinking boat was dashed on the face of the rock, and the unfortunate men were for an instant seen faintly struggling for their lives in the waves, within 20 yards of numerous seafaring men, looking on with the coldest apathy and indifference.

"A boat from Clythe perished near Ullster, with all on board, including a father and two sons. At this very moment, 4 o'clock, the wind blows most tremendously from the SW. and some boats have been seen out at sea holding on by their nets, which it is to be feared may be overwhelmed by the continuance and increasing severity of the gale. We would now only throw it out as suggestion to the Government of this great maritime country, whether it may not be worth their while as a matter of state policy if not of common humanity, to expend some few thousand pounds in forming safe harbours, for the sake of affording protection to that most deserving and industrious portion of the community, the fishermen who are obliged, in the daily and nightly exercise of their profession, to expose themselves in all seasons and in all weathers, along this most dangerous and rugged coast. It is well known that many of the inlets now used as fishing stations are capable of being converted into safe and commodious harbours, at a comparatively trifling expence."—*Inverness Journal*.

**Cotton Manufactures.**—During the second week in September there were imported at Liverpool 16,441 bales and 300 serous cotton, the largest quantity, we believe, ever entered in the same time.—This trade is truly astonishing, and in some instances un-

accountable. Some hundreds of boxes of goods are, we observe, returned from foreign markets, yet the ALFRED, of 390 tons, is now ready to sail from Greenock for Jamaica, literally crammed with dry goods. The quantity of cotton yarn which is now shipping to the Continent is truly surprising. One house here, shipped last week from Leith, 20,000 pounds, and only a few days ago, we observed in one shipment, 30,000 pounds, and several cwt. The yarn thus shipped, is, we understand, of the very finest qualities, a subject deserving the serious attention of our cotton manufacturers. To give an instance of the fineness to which cotton is now spun, we can state as a fact, that the price of a single pound amounts to *5l. 19s. 6d.* (above 120 times the value of the same weight of raw material, which may serve to give the public an idea of the extent and value of the cotton manufactures of Great Britain,) and even finer qualities are now being spun. The waste from this kind of spinning, is so well prepared, that it is sold for its full value for other manufactures, so that the spinner of such fine qualities has no loss.—*Glasgow Paper*.

**Laudanum swallowed by Mr. Edward Jukes, Surgeon, Westminster.**—The Public are greatly indebted to this ingenious and enterprising Gentleman, for the invention and application of an apparatus, by the means of which the stomach can be emptied of poisons that might be taken by accident or design; and in instances where this organ has become insusceptible to the action of emetic substances, (as in the case of the late Archbishop of Armagh), immediate recourse to this Instrument in the hands of a dexterous Surgeon, will not fail of rescuing the unfortunate sufferer from certain destruction. The result of Mr. Jukes's experiments on himself (assisted by Mr. James Scott, an eminent surgeon in Westminster) are truly interesting and satisfactory. The largest quantity of laudanum swallowed by Mr. Jukes, is ten drachms. The particular description of the apparatus, with the different experiments, made first on inferior animals, and lastly on himself and others, might be seen by reference to the different medical periodical publications for July, August, and September, of this year.

**Boldness and Ferocity of the Sparrow Hawk.**—A remarkable instance of the boldness and ferocity of the sparrow hawk, was witnessed at Market Deeping, on Sunday se'nnight. Just as the congregation was returning from divine service in the afternoon, a hawk of the above-mentioned genus, made a stoop at a swallow which had alighted in the centre of the church; and notwithstanding the surrounding spectators, and incessant twitterings of numbers of the victim's friends, the feathered tyrant succeeded in bearing his prey triumphantly into the air.

**Dreadful Accident.**—In Castletown, Isle of Man, lately, a fine active young fellow not thirty years of age, named William Preston, in the employ of Mr. Quayle, brewer, whilst standing on the edge of the mashing vat, to open the slide by which the malt descends from an upper floor into the vat, over balanced himself and was precipitated headlong into the boiling fluid, upwards of four feet and a half deep; he rose immediately with his head and neck above the water, and though instantaneous assistance was afforded, the whole of his body was so dreadfully scalded, that he died in considerable agony about six o'clock the same evening. After having been extricated from the vat, he walked home leaning on the arm of the brewer, a distance of more than two hundred yards.

**Shocking Death.**—September last, a young man named John Bradshaw, aged 22, came by a very dreadful death in the factory of Mr. Howarth, of Lostock, near this town. He was cleaning one of the wheels in the carding-room, when his hand was drawn into the machinery; the rest of his body instantly followed, and was mangled in a manner which it chills the blood to think of. His head and both arms were severed in a moment from his body, and the shivered fragments of his frame lay scattered about the room in hideous confusion. He was an industrious workman, and had accumulated about 2*l.* which he intended to spend in enjoying the amusements of Preston Guild. This dreadful casualty, however, made it necessary to appropriate the

money to the very opposite purpose of conducting his remains to the tomb.—*Preston Chronicle*.

**Shocking Accident.**—In August last about eight o'clock, as Mr. Blackburn, jun., master butcher, of Bow, was returning home from a country fair, in coming near Bow Bridge his chaise was shattered to pieces, by driving on a hill of stones, imprudently left on the road, where he was discovered soon after in a state of insensibility, and was conveyed, dreadfully injured, to the Harrow, at Startford, and from thence home, after being attended by a surgeon.—There are hopes of his recovery.

**Suicide.**—Yesterday the body of a respectable looking man, apparently between forty and fifty years of age, was discovered hanging by a cord from the bough of a tree, in a shrubbery near the Rising Sun, at Eastham. He was instantly cut down, but the vital spark appeared to have been extinct for some time; we believe, for some days. The unfortunate man was dressed in a coloured shirt, dark striped waistcoat, green cloth coat, velvet breeches, cassimere gaiters, worsted stockings, low shoes, and wore a white cambric handkerchief. The waistcoat was marked W. M. in the inside of the lining. He was about four feet five inches high, and of sandy hair and complexion. The body was conveyed to the Rising Sun to await the decision of the Coroner's Jury.—*Morning Chronicle, Sept. 11.*

**Limerick, Sept. 7.**—Notwithstanding the many who were convicted of capital crimes at our last General Summer Assizes, yet, since the commencement of our adjourned sitting, nine more unfortunate individuals are doomed to suffer an ignominious death. Six have been capitally convicted for the murder of Buckley, the Crown witness, and three for burglary. When five of the murderers of Buckley were sentenced, they behaved in the most hardened manner in the dock, and seemed completely unconcerned about their ill-fated doom.

**Drawing Inferences.**—Two clerical gentlemen having called on a reverend brother in the country at rather an early hour in the morning, found the Minister in bed, so were ushered into the garden to look about them, till his reverence could get himself in a condition to receive them. Finding John, the Minister's man, busy at work, one of them entered into a familiar conversation with this "lesser prop of the Church," and amongst other things inquired, "Weel, John, how lang ha'e ye been wi' the Minister?" "Indeed," quoth John, "I have been twa score years, Sir." "Aye, twa score years! then ye'll be able to preach yourself by this time, John?" "Na, na, Sir," replied honest John, "I canna preach, but I dinna think but I could draw a few inferences." "Weel, John," continued his interrogator, "what inference would ye draw frae that portion o' Scripture which says, 'the ass snuffeth up the east wind.' " "If I were to draw any" replied the Minister's man, shaking his head slowly and significantly, "it would be, that he would snuff lang at it, ere he would get fat on't."—*Caledonian Mercury.*

**Bow-Street.—Curious Affair.**—On Monday (Sept 9) Mr. Thompson, a linen-draper, keeping a shop at No. 37, Parliament-street, was brought up in the custody of Godfrey, a constable, on a warrant, charged by a Mr. Lester with a very outrageous assault upon him.

It appeared from the statement of Mr. Lester, that he resided at Battersea, rise, upon a little property he possesses there; and on Sunday afternoon, while he and his wife and children were sitting very comfortably over their dish of tea, they were somewhat alarmed at hearing a wild sort of laugh, accompanied by occasional sobbing, in a female voice, apparently out of doors, and very near to the house. Mr. Lester went to the door, and saw a lady very elegantly dressed, with a gold watch by her side, and otherwise rather profusely ornamented with jewels and trinkets, seated, or rather reclining upon a wall, a few yards from his house. She appeared to be in hysterics, and he ran towards her and caught her in his arms, just time enough to save her from falling backwards, by which she must have been precipitated to a depth of nearly 14 feet. The wall in front was not

more than two feet from the ground. She was then quite insensible, and he took her into his house, and procured proper restoratives, and he and his wife showed her every possible attention. While they were endeavouring to recover her, the defendant, Mr. Thompson, and another man, walked in from an adjoining public-house, and Mr. Thompson assisted in applying the restoratives, and seemed anxious for the recovery of the lady. When she had recovered her senses, Mr. Thompson and the lady seemed perfectly acquainted with each other, and he requested her to go with him. She refused, and again burst into tears. Mr. Lester then endeavoured to prevail upon her to accompany the gentleman, as it was of course better that she should be with her friends, than at his house, even if he could accommodate her as she could wish. She, however, positively declared she would not go with them, for that she had been shamefully treated. She would not stir another step with them. Her remarks were more particularly addressed to Mr. Thompson, who, after thanking Mr. Lester for his kindness, which he said did him great credit, went back with his friend to the public house. They had scarcely gone, when the lady relapsed into hysterics, and her alternate fits of laughing and sobbing were so violent as almost to alarm the neighbourhood. While she was in this state, Mr. Thompson returned. He was at first "a little fresh," but he then appeared to have added fuel to the flame, and seemed in that sort of mind which is generally described as "ripe for any thing." When he entered the room where the lady was lying in the state described, he began to throw every thing about, and conducted himself in a very outrageous manner. He took the pillows which had been provided for the lady, and tore off the cases; and in the same violent manner separated the covering from another piece of furniture. He also broke several articles of china and glass. The remonstrance of Mr. Lester, though delivered in a conciliatory tone, had the very opposite effect to that intended. The reply of Mr. Thompson was—"D—your blood, do you mean to insult me? Mr. Lester replied, that he did not, but again begged he would recollect that he was in the house of a stranger, and one who would not be insulted with impunity, and he hoped he would not compel him to appeal to a constable for protection. He had scarcely time to finish the sentence, when Mr. Thompson advanced towards him, and struck him a blow in the mouth, which dislodged three of his teeth, and brought him to the ground. He would have repented the blow when Mr. Lester rose, but for the interference of the family of the latter, who got between them. He then vented his rage in invective, and swore that he would meet Mr. Lester anywhere with sword or pistol; and if he did not like that, he would box him for any money he liked to bet. Mr. Lester, however, declined, the honour, and after a great deal of trouble, and no inconsiderable damage to the interior of the house, as well as to the person of Mr. Lester, Mr. Thompson took away the lady in a gig which he had waiting at the aforesaid public-house. Mr. L. learned in the course of the conversation which took place at intervals, that the lady was the wife of Mr. Thompson, and that he had driven her out in a gig for a day's pleasure. They were on their return, when Mr. T. was guilty of an offence against the laws of conjugal love, which no wife of spirit could brook—he saluted a young lady whom he saw on the road, and that with such an appearance of ardour as to be too much for the sensitive mind of Mrs. Thompson, who quitted him when they stopped, and she was found by Mr. Lester in the situation already described. Mr. Thompson's only excuse for his behaviour to Mr. Lester was that he was irritated, and had drank too freely. He did not deny the general charge; but expressed his willingness to make an ample apology to Mr. Lester. The parties retired, and it was understood that the matter was arranged by Mr. Thomson's making what he professed his readiness to do—a very ample apology.

**The late Mrs. Donatty.**—In consequence of no heir being found to lay claim to the property left by the late Mrs. Donatty (who our readers may recollect, was barbarously murdered), George Maule, Esq. the King's Proctor, has administered in behalf of the Crown.—*Bell's Messengers, Sept. 15.*



# PARLIAMENTARY.

—197—

## Imperial Parliament.

HOUSE OF COMMONS, TUESDAY, JULY 30, 1823.

### BRITISH COMMERCE.

Mr. MARRYAT rose to present a petition from certain merchants and ship-owners of the city of London, complaining that the British shipping was not sufficiently protected in the South Sea. The honourable member requested the attention of the house to this important subject. It appeared that the Governments of Chili and Peru were at present at variance, and each had declared the coast of its enemy in a state of blockade. The vessels of Great Britain were thus placed between two fires, and the consequence was that many of them had been captured by each of the hostile parties. The books at Lloyd's exhibited numerous proofs of the depredations which were now committed upon British commerce. One case had been before alluded to in that house—he meant that of the *LORD COLLINGWOOD* a vessel, which had been captured and condemned at Porto Rico. The causes assigned for this proceeding were, that the vessel was trading in the South Seas without a license from the Government of Spain, and moreover that it was carrying on trade with the enemies of that Government. Another great source of injury to British commerce was, the pirates who infested those seas. The honourable member read a description of the treatment which a British vessel had received from a piratical cruiser. After stripping the vessel of every thing valuable, and making the captain deliver all his money, the pirate cut and destroyed all the rigging and left her. The pirate, however, afterwards returned and demanded more money from the captain, who, not being able to furnish them with it, was dreadfully wounded by their cutlasses, and afterwards hung up to a part of the rigging by a rope tied round his neck; but the hands being left at liberty, he contrived to slip the knot under his chin, and thus saved his life. Others of the British crew experienced similar treatment, this was a sample of the treatment which our unfortunate seamen received from these gentlemen. (*hear.*) He was sorry to say that he understood no attempt was made by the British vessels of war to destroy these pirates in their strong holds, which were perfectly well known to our cruisers. The Americans only showed a disposition to put down the pirates. In many instances the Americans had captured British vessels which had been previously taken by pirates, and restored them to their owners. It would seem, however, that this country was actuated by a different policy. The English schooner *DISPATCH* having been captured by a pirate, and afterwards retaken by a Spanish vessel, application was made to Rear-Admiral Brown to have the schooner restored to its original owners. In answer to this application Admiral Brown stated that he was authorized by his Commander-in-Chief to declare that Great Britain could not interfere to obtain restitution of vessels (although originally British) which had been captured whilst sailing under a piratical flag. This was in direct opposition to the policy pursued by America, who acted upon the principle that piracy and murder could give no title to property. The doctrine of Rear-Admiral Brown appeared to be this—that vessels captured under a piratical flag became the property of those by whom they were taken. But how would this apply to the case of British vessels captured by pirates, and retaken by Admiral Brown himself? (*hear.*) Was it meant to be contended that vessels taken under these circumstances should belong to Admiral Brown? The honourable gentleman then proceeded to complain, that British vessels of war refused to take under convoy the vessels of any other country than this; whilst the Americans gave public notice that they would give convoy to vessels of all nations, without distinction of flags. In war there might be reasons for refusing to take under our convoy, but he could imagine no pretext for doing so now. He mentioned this circumstance only because inferences unfavourable to the British flag were drawn from it, whilst at the same time the conduct of America was referred to and eulogized in all parts of the world. (*hear. hear.*) The honourable member concluded with moving that the petition be brought up. (*hear.*)

Sir G. COCKBURN felt it necessary to make a few observations upon what had fallen from the honourable member. The honourable member had not correctly stated the case when he said that America made it a practice to restore vessels retaken from pirates to their original owners. In the instances in which America had restored vessels, they had just before been taken by the pirates. There was this difference in the case of the schooner *DISPATCH*, which the hon. member had alluded to—namely, that it had been acting as a pirate before it was captured by the Spanish ship. Under these circumstances, our admiral had no right to interfere. The honourable member complained that our ships did not exert themselves to clear the seas of pirates, but the honourable member ought to know how extremely difficult it was to do this. Most of the vessels which came under the description of pirates were prepared with regular commissions from recognized belligerent powers. It was said that the American vessels pursued the pirates into their strong holds. The reason of this was, that the keys lay on the American coast. If our vessels had the same opportunities as the Americans they would be found equally active in putting down the pirates. For instance, if the

keys lay at the back of Spithead, the pirates would be soon routed. He could assure the honourable member, that Government made every exertion to protect our shipping. Instructions had been sent out to our commanders-in-chief, authorizing them to go even beyond the limits which the civil courts would warrant. With respect to what had been said on the subject of convoys, he could only observe, that Government felt a difficulty in ordering our vessels to give convoy, because it might lead to circumstances that would involve us in wars. This country was only restrained from taking what the honourable member seemed to consider effectual means of protecting our shipping by a desire not to infringe the rights of other nations, as well as to preserve our own inviolate. We did not want power; if we were to man our navy, no doubt we could do what we pleased upon the sea. He dared to say, that our officers and seamen would have no objection to such a system, if parliament would turn them out. He remembered older officers than himself to have said, that there was a time when we never did right on the sea, and never suffered wrong. (*a laugh.*) It would seem as though the hon. member desired to revert to that good old time. With respect to the blockades which had been declared in consequence of the quarrels which had arisen among the rising states of South America, this country had no right to interfere. Every thing, however, possible had been done by our navy on the coasts of Peru and Chili for the protection of British vessels. By means of negotiation alone, and without having recourse to violent measures of any kind, Government had obtained the release of all British vessels which had been seized, and he would say justly seized, upon those coasts. (*hear.*) But the honourable gentleman wished us to go farther than this, and to imitate the conduct of the Americans. Now, what had been the result of the course pursued by America? It appeared by the last despatches that American vessels had been forbidden to enter Lima. What would have been said if the country had adopted a line of policy which would have involved us in a quarrel with these rising states, the result of which, there could be little doubt, would have been to render them an easy conquest to their old masters? If Government had acted in this manner they would have been scouted from that house. This was a circumstance which the petitioners did not seem to have taken into their consideration, and he thought he had a right to declare that the petitioners appeared to consult their own interests, rather than those of the country in general.

The Marquis of LONDONDERRY commenced by stating, that the present petition was merely a counterpart of one which had been presented a few evenings since from Liverpool. He regretted that the merchants of London should have followed that example. Unless the petitioners suspected the Government of supineness, and believed, the Admiralty to be their enemies, he thought that the best course they could adopt, would be to endeavour to open the eyes of the Admiralty upon the subject. He deprecated the discussions which arose upon such petitions, as tending to expose British Shipping to greater risks than they at present ran. The hon. member who presented the petition entertained opinions which never could be acted upon. He desired that British cruisers should be converted into a kind of roving Court of Admiralty, to adjudicate in all cases where vessels were retaken from pirates. It was said, that this was done by America. This might be so; but he was sure it would not be long before America would see the necessity of regulating the conduct of her naval officers by her own laws. He thought this country had no reason whatever to complain of the conduct of the government existing in South America. The noble lord then proceeded to notice several cases of capture which had been alluded to. With respect to the capture of the *HENE*, the Admiralty had no knowledge of it. As to the *VIGONIA*, they certainly were in possession of circumstances connected with the seizure of that vessel, and it was, he must say, a case open, *prima facie* to extreme suspicion. He would not state his opinion on the question now, lest it might prejudice the proceedings that were at present pending. The vessel, it appeared, had proceeded from Valparaiso with a cargo of corn for Monte Video; but, instead of proceeding to the south, to double Cape Horn, she sailed to the north, and it was suspected that she meant to go Lima. The port of Callao was blockaded, but still she took a northern course, and went to Guipuscoa, where she was detained. Judicial proceedings were now in progress against her; and therefore he hoped the hon. member and the house would pause before they came to a hasty decision on a case of this kind. He had stated that he was in possession of a list of 18 cases of detention of British vessels which had occurred in the Pacific ocean, and to which, on a former evening, allusion had been made by the right hon. member for Liverpool (Mr. Canning.) With respect to many of these, he could give some intelligible, if not the most satisfactory, information. In those 18 cases, there was only one single instance of complete condemnation. It was said that this country might protect foreign property, by allowing the use of British papers. But if that were once permitted, where were they to stop? The line once broken, it was impossible to say how far the principle might be carried. As to the vessels of whose depredations the merchants complained, if they were met and recognized as pirates, they would be treated as such; but it was impossible that their naval officers should carry about with them the powers of a court of ad-

miralty, to decide what cases were and what were not piratical. The only complete case of condemnation amongst those 18 was that of the *LYDIA*. Another vessel had also been condemned, but as some doubts arose as to the justice of the condemnation, the charge had been sold, and the proceeds lodged in the treasury of Cadiz for a year, to await the event of any appeal that might be made. This showed that the Spanish Government did not deal with cases of this kind in that off-handed and inconsiderate way which had been imputed to them. The *REBECCA*, the *CATALINA*, the *EDWARD ELLICE*, *LOMO SUFFIELD*, the *WASHINGTON*, and the *ROBERT*, had been released. The case of the *COLUMBIA* remained undecided. There were four cases of a peculiar character, distinguishable from all the rest. These were cases of vessels detained by the Chilean squadron under Lord Cochrane. He seemed to think, because he was carrying on war against Peru, which he supposed to be subject to the colonial laws of Spain, that therefore he was entitled to deal with the property which he found proceeding thither by sea, in the same manner that the Chilean Government would dispose of it if they met it on land. He would not, he said, allow the enemies of Chili to reap any benefit from the duties which the cargoes would produce, and therefore he seized them. This was a sort of law which Lord Cochrane might understand, but certainly his Majesty's Government did not recognize it, and they had directed strong remonstrances to be made to the Chilean Government on the subject. He saw nothing in the tone or temper to that Government of which he had any right to complain, and he hoped they would be able to bring Lord Cochrane to reason. If this Government could not alter the laws of Spain, they could not allow Lord Cochrane to set up, a new code of laws of his own. Therefore it would be necessary to discuss with the Chilean Government the question which Lord Cochrane had raised. He would, under those circumstances recommend the hon. member for Sandwich (Mr. Marryat), and all those gentlemen who were interested in the South American trade, (unless they could persuade themselves and the public that there was some supineness in the government of the country, some deficiency in adopting proper measures by the present naval administration,) to exert their activity in pointing out to ministers the best mode by which those practices could be removed instead of bringing their complaints before the house; because he believed that very little practicable advantage could be derived from explanations given in Parliament. Complaints of this nature led only to statements pointing out the difficulties which presented themselves in acting against the obnoxious parties. On these grounds, he hoped gentlemen would not attribute to government or to the naval administration of the country, any supineness; as he could not help thinking that, under all the circumstances, government had conducted this great and important question in a very satisfactory manner. (*hear, hear.*)

Mr. BRIGHT said, it was, in his opinion, necessary to bring this subject before the house, if for no other purpose than to draw forth those matters of fact which the noble lord had stated. When circumstances of this description were investigated before parliament, it was impossible but that benefit would result to the country from the inquiry. For his own part, he could not acquit the Admiralty of supineness. It was stated that this was a question with independent powers. He denied the fact. Such a statement was quite fallacious. There were two questions—the first with Chili and Peru, which he admitted to be independent states; the second, with those pirates on the island of Cuba. The noble lord and his colleagues said, "If we find out pirates, we know how to deal with them." He would ask, what did a pirate mean? Did it mean a small vessel coming suddenly out of a place of concealment, her crew armed with swords, pistols, and knives, robbing defenceless vessels, plundering their cargoes, and hanging up their crews? (*Sir G. Cockburn—They are not pirates.*) Then what is a pirate?

Sir G. COCKBURN.—If such a vessel as the honourable member alluded to, had proceeded from Spain, under Spanish colours, she would not be a pirate. Spain would have to answer for any outrage or violence committed by that vessel, and a war would ensue between the two countries, if, on a formal complaint being made, redress were not afforded. If a vessel were met, sailing under a black flag, bearing an inscription—"We are friends to plunder, and enemies to every power we come up with,"—or if a ship were discovered bearing no colours whatever, there could not be any doubt as to the course to be adopted towards her: but the case was very different when ships were sailing under a particular flag.

Mr. BRIGHT continued.—He was then to understand that if a vessel were provided with simulated papers, and hoisted any flag the crew thought fit to assume, she was not to be treated as a pirate, although she had committed dreadful outrages on unprotected men. If that were the case, there was an end of all security on the sea; for nothing could be more easy than to fit out a vessel under these false pretences, and to rob and plunder every ship that was inferior to her in force. His opinion, however, was, that when the crew of a vessel perpetrated acts which were unknown to civilized war, she must be considered *prima facie* as a pirate, and no power ought to interfere for the purpose of preventing the infliction of that punishment on her crew which they appeared to deserve. This was the line taken by the

Americans. If the ships of all nations were attacked by vessels fitted out in the harbour of states that were said to be at peace with all the world, the aggressors must be looked upon as pirates, and should be treated as such. Was a case of this kind to be met by fictions of law and metaphysical tallies? Where those marauders to be allowed to destroy all the property on the sea in consequence of some technical subtlety? It was useless to lay down such doctrines as those he had heard that night avowed. If the law really was as it had been stated to be, then, indeed, he agreed with the noble lord, that it was useless, nay, worse than useless, to come to that house with complaints. They, as practical men, must look at the essence of the thing; they must examine the risk which they would run by putting down those piratical practices. He wished to know where was the difference between America and England? Why should the former do that which the latter had neglected to do? (*Sir George Cockburn—“What have the Americans done?”*) They had taken the vessels or those pirates, and they had protected the commerce of other countries. There was a squadron of frigates, American and French, stationed in those seas. For what were they sent there but to protect the trade of those nations? They certainly were not sent there for nothing. Why was not the same thing done by England? Had we vessels waiting in those particular places which were infested by the pirates? He believed that England had a greater naval force on "the station" than America and France; but why were they not on the right spot, in the neighbourhood of the Havannah, where the Americans were cruising? The name of an English vessel was not heard of there; but the names both of French and American vessels were heard of. By the accounts which they had been put in possession of this evening, it would almost appear as if there were no British vessels in those seas. This want of energy proved the weakness, not of the country, but of the Government, who ought to protect the commerce of the nation. This incipient system of piracy was of more importance than might, at first view, be imagined. The history of the Buccaneers ought to excite a strong desire to destroy the present gang of pirates, before they became formidable. That was the history of a body of brave but cruel and violent men, who laid waste those very coasts for many years. They were armed in the same manner as these pirates were, and they acted precisely as these marauders did. The depredations committed by the vessels which hovered about Cape Antonio were directly similar to the outrages formerly perpetrated by the buccaniers. They must give up all trade in those seas, unless a strong representation were made to the Spanish government, stating that if they would not put down this piratical system, England must take the matter into their own hands, and deal with those plunderers at their crimes merited. (*hear, hear, from the ministerial benches.*) He understood that a representation had been made; but it was one thing to do an act, and another to do it effectually. If the Spanish Government were tardy in removing the evil, the British Government ought to take the matter up. In his opinion, if a British vessel took a ship, the crew of which had hung up the captain of an English trader which had fallen into their power, that house would, and ought to remunerate the English officer, if, in seizing the perpetrators of such cruelty, he advanced beyond the strict line of his duty. The House of Commons, inconsidering this subject, ought to look to its essence and merits, and not to books of law, which were frequently understood in a very imperfect manner.

Mr. CROKER said, he was glad the hon. member had plainly stated what was his view of the question. The complaint was, that an unlawful protection was given by the Spanish territory for the purpose of covering acts of violence. To check this, the honourable member said, that he would in the first place tell the Spanish Government, that if they would not put an end to those piratical practices, the Government of this country would do it themselves; and in the mean time he would cause orders to be sent out to the British admiral, to station vessels in those particular parts where the principal mischief arose. He knew not by what means the honourable member had got access to the despatches in his (Mr. Croker's) office, but he had most accurately described the orders given to the admiral on the West India station on the 23d of March last. That despatch, after recapitulating all the cases of piracy, stated, that the Lords of the Admiralty had called the attention of the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs to the hardships which had been inflicted on the crews of different vessels. It pointed out the mode in which the pirates carried on their depredations, by keeping their vessels close in shore, by forming a sort of establishment on the island of Cuba, and by escaping inland whenever they were pursued. It then went on to say, that this state of things justified the British Government in requiring the Spanish Government either to take immediate measures themselves to bring those atrocious criminals to punishment, or at least that the Spanish flag and her territorial rights should not prevent Great Britain from taking the necessary measures for destroying this nest of pirates. (*hear, hear.*) This was, in every point of view, the course which the hon. member (Mr. Bright) had himself recommended, but the despatch went still farther: it directed the admiral to send one of his cruisers to Cape St. Antonio to protect the British commerce, and, if possible, without violating the Spanish



territorial rights, to cut off these piratical marauders, so that all that the honourable member recommended in his accusatory tirade had been done so long ago as the 23d of March. But he must say, that those principles of resistance were laid down the moment Government heard the outrages in question. Now, would the hon. gentleman, before Spain had got an opportunity of inquiring into the state of the case, call upon Great Britain to invade a colony of that country? The honourable member had said, that this was a case of life and death and blood, and that care ought to be taken to prevent it from coming to such extremities as might be fraught with the most lamentable consequences. And yet what was the recommendation of the hon. member? He wished, before Spain had received any information from the Havannah, that England should invade that territory, and thus involve not only the two nations, but all Europe in war. If that were the hon. member's mode of preventing bloodshed, it was happy for the world that he had not the direction of the national councils. The hon. member said he would not respect a flag borne by a small vessel belonging to a power at peace with all the world, if that vessel committed any depredation. He (Mr. Croker) would tell the hon. member, that there would never be any peace in the world if individual officers were allowed to decide on the degree of protection which a flag afforded. The law of nations was founded on expediency. It was built on international rights, and was intended for the benefit of the world at large; and he must contend, in accordance with that law, that where a ship sailed under a particular flag, it might be considered *bona fide* as belonging to that country whose flag it carried. The abuse complained of was, that on pretence of making war on enemies, the parties implicated had made war on neutrals; and here, to bolster up his case, the honourable member argued that the South American states were at peace with all the world. This was not the fact. They were at war with each other, which led to the circumstance of five or six independent flags being hoisted in those seas. The honourable member's statement was as extraordinary in point of fact as his recommendation was unusual in point of law. His noble friend had truly stated that the people of those countries were already sufficiently acute in evading the law. From its nature the law of nations was more difficult of exposition than the municipal law; and the very answer which the honourable member's argument had wrung from his gallant friend behind him (Sir G. Cockburn) would perhaps do all the mischief which his noble friend had apprehended, by teaching those persons effectually to evade the law of nations. Unless a case could be adduced which would lead the house to pass a censure on his Majesty's government, he thought it would be much better both for the interests of commerce, and for the power and character of the British navy, if hon. gentlemen would do ministers the justice to place in their hands whatsoever information they collected, and leave them to make the best arrangements which the circumstances admitted. All the cases of capture which had been mentioned, comprised, but two instances of condemnation. One of them was a condemnation in a case of absolute and avowed fraud. The other was a case of a doubtful character. But such was the force of British representations, that, though a condemnation had taken place, and the goods were sold in the second instance, yet the proceeds of the cargo were lodged in the Treasury of the mother country, there to remain for one year, pending any appeal which might be lodged by the parties themselves, or by their government and the British Government had at the time sent out orders on the subject to Sir Thos. Hardy. There was therefore but one case of condemnation, and that was a just one, because it was founded on a fraud on the part of the captured. Was it not, then better to leave this matter in the hands of Government, instead of bringing complaints before that house, which could only have the effect of giving encouragement to piracy?

Dr. LUSHINGTON said, it was not extraordinary that the merchants of London and Liverpool should vent their complaints in a more public manner than Government would think proper to do. He, however, did not believe that those complaints were productive of any unpleasant consequences. There was a certain degree of evil attending the present state of South American affairs, and it was impossible for ministers to protect the trade from the peculiar inconveniences which were consequent on that evil—he alluded to the war now carried on between the mother country and the South American colonies. While that war existed, it was quite clear all British vessels trading to South America must be subject to the right of visitation and search. Such inevitably must be the case, unless they determined to refuse to others the benefit of those principles which they were not ready to give up themselves. (hear.) Now, when they admitted the right of search and visitation, other inconveniences might be connected with it. That right might be carried into effect vexatiously, unlawfully, and improperly; but there was something more: British ships would be liable to condemnation in case the laws of war were violated. If a British vessel went to any South American port that was blockaded *de facto*, she together with her cargo was liable to be condemned. These were mischiefs which, he trusted, would always continue under similar circumstances (hear, hear); because he was sure that the right of visitation

and search, limited and restricted as it was at present, was, without exception, the most valuable maritime right which Great Britain could possess. (hear, hear.) He should always be most desirous that she should allow to others the very same indulgence which she claimed for herself; and if, in consequence some inconvenience were suffered by the merchants of this country, he was persuaded that that inconvenience was infinitely and above all measure repaid by the benefit which Great Britain derived from this right in time of war. (hear, hear.) There was another part of this question which was surrounded with greater difficulties than those of a mere legal nature. He alluded to the question which the noble lord had introduced when he stated that this country did not recognize the South American governments as free and independent, but that Great Britain carried on a sort of intercourse with them which answered every purpose of such a recognition. By pursuing this mode, Government had got into a dilemma which was almost inexplicable; for it so happened, that the South American government claimed a territorial character, and so did Spain, the mother country. *De facto*, the territorial right was in the South American government; *de jure*, it was in that of Spain; but to give a full and complete title, it was necessary that the claim *de facto* and *de jure* should reside in one and the same government. Such a title they knew did not now exist. This was the plain fact of the case, because he had looked into, and made himself acquainted with the whole question since the right hon. member for Liverpool (Mr. Canning) had brought it forward. He would not, however go into any detail on the subject, for he thought that to dole out to the house any professional knowledge which he had acquired on this point, would be a proof of the very worst taste. (hear.) It had been said that Spain had no right to enforce her colonial laws, because she was not in possession of those colonies. He had some difficulty on this head, because he could not forget that St. Domingo was wrested from France in the year 1794; and on the 15th of June, 1803, the High Court of Admiralty, with Sir William Scott at its head, decided that that country should be treated as an enemy; therefore he would perhaps have some difficulty in treating that part of the subject. He felt on this account a very deep anxiety to see Great Britain come forward at the earliest period consistent with her honour, openly to acknowledge the independence of those countries, which had so gallantly achieved it for themselves. Some little difficulty, he was aware, arose from the treaties which, he regretted to say, the noble lord had entered into with Spain. It was there stipulated, that this country should not give any pecuniary or other assistance to the colonies, and there was an expression of anxiety, that those fertile provinces might finally be, preserved to the mother country. He confessed, that he thought such an expression should hardly have been put in the mouth of the King of Great Britain; recollecting that, in 1797, General Picton urged those colonies to revolt, and promised them every assistance for the accomplishment of their independence, because it was then the interest of England that they should be independent. He knew that after the revolution in Spain, and the overthrow of the French power in that country, the same relations between Great Britain and Spain did not exist as formerly; but yet, when he found that the feeling of independence was roused by the instigation of the British government, and was fostered by their incitement, he did not think, under such circumstances, any thing could justify the abandonment of the South Americans to their former oppressors. It seemed that when an application was made to land some marines on the island of Cuba, the governor stated that he must first receive instructions from the Spanish government. Now it struck him that this must be the state of the case with respect to Cuba. If it were a colony *de facto* and *de jure* under Spain, then the application would in the first place be made to the mother country; but if Cuba was under an independent government, that did not admit the government of the mother country, yet would still, out of compliment, make this application to Spain, he could not see the necessity of this country waiting for the Spanish Government to decide on that which, as it had no power, it mattered not whether it granted or refused. He would, under those circumstances, go to the Government of Cuba and say "We must presume that you have proper instructions from Spain, and we call on you to carry into effect those principles upon which nations ought to act. We demand of you to aid us in putting an end to the system of piracy which is openly carried on, and if you will not, you impose upon us the necessity of proceeding to act for ourselves." (hear, hear.) With respect to the officers of our navy, their situation was one of considerable delicacy. As a proof of this, he need only refer to the case of a British vessel, which was seized by a pirate flag, and re-captured by the Spanish flag. Application was made to Sir Charles Rowley, to cause the restoration of all the property to the British owners. He refused, and really it was too much to ask that officer to decide a nice question of law, without due deliberation. But his (Dr. Lushington's) opinion was, that where property was taken by pirates, unless a *bona fide* alteration was made under some competent authority, the mere fact of its having changed hands did not affect it. He was glad that the honourable secretary (Mr. Croker) had read the despatch of the 23d of March, because it would show to the merchants and underwriters, that the Admiralty

had not lumbered on this occasion, but had done what appeared to be proper. He thought that despatch contained the best directions that could be given under the circumstances; but it was one thing to give good directions, and another to carry them into effect. He feared that, unless a proper force was employed, and the admiral on the station was directed to take prompt measures to put down the system, those piratical depredations would be still continued, for the temptation to plunder was endless. What, then, was to be done? The noble lord said, "You cannot touch a vessel under the Spanish flag, neither shall you molest one bearing the Independent flag." Where, then, was the security of our commerce, when any of those piratical vessels might take British colours. American colours, or any colours they pleased? (Sir G. Cockburn here said, "No.") He (Dr. Lushington) asserted that they might assume British colours. It was true if an English vessel caught them, they would suffer for it; but if an American or Spanish vessel came up with them, she could only make a low bow to the vessel bearing the English colours, and pass by. This was the great difficulty of the case. He therefore recommended that strong representations should be made to the Spanish Government, and if that were not sufficient, let strong measures be taken. Let those vessels be captured—let the crews be identified as pirates if possible, and their trial and execution must follow. (hear.) The difficulty he had pointed out was not now started for the first time. It had been discussed for the last 120 years, and could not easily be removed. The last question was, as to the propriety of granting a British convoy to foreign ships. Undoubtedly it would be extremely desirable if a British convoy, protecting British merchantmen, could extend that protection to the ships of friendly Powers, but here arose this difficulty—suppose a ship sailing under the protection of our flag was hailed by a British cruiser, on the ground that she had South American property on board; what in that case would be the result? He believed that the British convoy could not then interfere with the right of search, and yet it was perfectly well known to be against our practice to allow any nation to exercise that right with respect to ships under British convoy. He thought that the advantage which might be derived from extending the protection he had alluded to, would not counterbalance the evil which must arise from trenching on so valuable a right. He hoped this would not be considered by government as a question of slight importance, on account of the number of ships that had been taken. It was not only the loss of six, eight, or ten ships that was to be considered but the consequent loss occasioned by the rise in the rate of insurance, and the increased wages to be paid to the master and men, which was enhanced in proportion to the risk and danger; and in the same proportion must the commerce of Great Britain receive injury. (hear, hear.) Neither should it be forgotten, that these outrages were connected with circumstances of the most horrible cruelty and barbarity. (hear, hear.)

Mr. CROKER.—The hon. and learned gent. said it was one thing to give good orders, but another to carry them into effect. Now he should be able to show by adverting to the orders sent out to Admiral Rowley on the 18th of June, that Government did take the best means to accomplish the object they had in view. That despatch acquainted Admiral Rowley that the answer of the Spanish government had been received, and that they had expressed as strong a detestation of those outrages as the British government had done. The Spanish authorities declared that immediate orders should be given for the suppression of piracy. But, independently, the admiral received positive directions from his Majesty's Government to take care that the orders sent out were promptly executed.

Dr. PHILLIMORE said he hoped this country would always extend to other powers those principles which, under different circumstances, she had defended for herself. It would, he conceived, be most atrocious conduct, if after the arduous struggle they had maintained for the right of search and visitation, they should be the first to turn round and oppose the exercise of that right by other nations.

Mr. FORBES said that the trade to South America might be a very profitable trade, but undoubtedly it was a very hazardous one; and those who engaged in it must be prepared to abide by those hazards.

The petition was then brought up. On the question "that the petition be now read."

Mr. MARRYAT thought that at all events the discussion which had occurred would do good. The noble lord opposite had given the best account of the transactions generally which had yet been furnished; and the honourable Secretary of the Admiralty had read a despatch which did him much credit. A mistake, he (Mr. Marryat) believed, had prevailed among some gentlemen who had spoken: they supposed the petition to be a petition from the underwriters. The petition did not come from the underwriters, but from the shipowners. The underwriters, indeed, presented no petition to the house, and for the best of all possible reasons—they were able to protect themselves: whenever they found any particular voyage become dangerous, they raised their premiums in proportion; and the consequence was, that the risk from Jamaica to the Havannah, which, under ordinary circumstances, did not exceed 10s. per cent., was now charged at 10 guineas.

The petition was then read.

#### AMENDED BILLS.

Mr. WETHERELL gave notice of a motion next session, that it might be allowable, when bills came amended from the House of Lords, for members of the House of Commons to move for committees upon them. The propriety of this measure suggested itself to him (Mr. Wetherell), upon noticing the amendments attached to the marriage act bill.

#### PRISONERS IN INDIA.

Mr. HUME rose to move for a return of the number of prisoners taken at Benaboorahai; stating the number of prisoners given up by Major-General Smith to Emaun Muschat; the number carried to Bombay, and the manner in which the latter class had been disposed of by the Bombay Government. He made this motion, the honourable gentleman said, with a view to some late proceedings in India, which demanded explanation. An expedition had been undertaken up the Persian Gulf against certain Arabs who had committed acts of piracy. The commanding officer had attacked a village, and carried off the whole male population as prisoners. The boys from five to fourteen years of age had been delivered over to one of the native authorities; the men had been taken to Bombay with an intention that they should remain prisoners for life; and many had already died in consequence of the severities they endured.

Mr. C. W. WYNN said, that there was no intention that the prisoners should remain in bondage for life, although the aggression of the Arabs had been marked by the most atrocious features of piracy. The Court of Directors did not approve of the measures which had been taken, and had directed that the prisoners should be restored to liberty, and compensation, as far as possible, made to them.

Mr. MONEY quoted an order from the government of Bombay to prove that the imprisonment had not been contemplated as perpetual.

Mr. H. G. BENNET wished it to be explained why the children had been given up.

Mr. W. SMITH said a few words which did not reach the gallery.

Mr. FORBES objected to the bringing on of matter involving accusations against individuals at the close of a session.

The return was then ordered to be furnished, and

Mr. HUME desired to be distinctly understood as making observations at such a time against no one. He would forbear from entering farther into the subject until the papers moved for should be furnished. The honourable gentleman then made a second motion, for a list of all persons confined by order of the Governors of the East India Company in the several presidencies (except those persons committed for trial before civil or military tribunals), the list to state the name of the supposed offender, the nature of the offence, by whom committed, and in what place confined.

Mr. C. W. WYNN said that the return could not be made without first communicating with India. If the honourable gentleman would withdraw the motion, he (Mr. Wynn) would take every step during the vacation towards procuring the information desired.

Mr. HUME withdrew his motion.

**New Police Act.**—On Tuesday at Union Hall, an information was laid against James Brown, a confectioner, carrying on business nearly opposite Vauxhall Gardens; and it being proved that on the 31st of August last he sold two bottles of ginger beer, and that he had company in the house at half past 12 o'clock, the worthy Magistrate (Mr. Swabey) said, that as this was his second offence, he should convict him in the full penalty of 10l. Brown said he should appeal to the Quarter Sessions, as he was entitled to do so from the penalty exceeding 5l. Mr. Swabey said he certainly had a right to do so, but reminded him that he would become bound, under the estreating of his bail, to try the case at the Quarter Sessions next ensuing. On the decision of this case many are interested, as there are several informations standing over till the result shall be known.—The Act under which the informations are laid is the 3d of Geo. IV. c. 55.

A remarkable instance of the fidelity and attachment of the canine race occurred last week in Manchester:—A shopkeeper in Churchgate being engaged as a performer in the Oratorios then holding at Preston Guild, set off for that town on Monday last by the coach. His Dog, Hector, who generally attended him when he went out, followed him to the coach-office, and, on his master getting upon the coach, the faithful animal showed by all the means in his power, placing his fore-legs on the wheel and moaning, his desire of accompanying him. When the coach started, Hector followed it a considerable distance; afterwards returned to the coach-office, whence it was with difficulty he could be got home. Since that time he has sought his master at all the places he usually frequented, moaning and howling continually; and being unable to find him, has constantly refused all the food set before him. No attempt could induce him to eat, and at length the poor animal died.



# ASIATIC DEPARTMENT.

—201—

## Three Sects of Hindus.

The following little Tract, lately published hereby, a learned Native, in the English and Bengallie Languages, gives an account of certain divisions among the Hindus not much known, we believe, to the English Public; and presents a picture of Hindu Notions on the subject of Religion, which cannot fail to be interesting to those who investigate the phenomena of the human mind. The Christian Reader will doubtless smile at the resemblance, the Author fancies he can trace between the three great sects among the Hindus, and what he esteems the three corresponding divisions of Christians; but, if we make due allowance for the medium through which this Native of India,—educated in ignorance of our Scriptures, imbued from his early youth with the doctrines of the Vedas,—must view such subjects; we cannot, comparatively speaking, deny him the praise of liberality. The charitable disposition he inculcates towards persons of a different faith, and forbearance towards even those whose speculative notions are the most abhorrent to one's mind, deserve, abstractedly considered, our unqualified approbation, and we hope this small Essay will produce a beneficial effect among his countrymen.

The author himself, it would appear, is of the sect of Vedanties, who have rejected the popular polytheistical notions of the Hindus; a sect which is said to have been increasing rapidly in Bengal of late years. Taking the opinions inculcated in the following Tract, as a specimen of their views and sentiments, it must certainly be matter of congratulation with all friends of mankind, that the dark superstition of Hinduism is assuming so enlightened a form; since even a partial reformation, is one step gained; and the destruction of a single error must help to clear the way for the full reception of revealed truth.

*Humble Suggestions to his Countrymen, who believe in the One True God:—By Prasanu Koomar Thakoor. Calcutta: 1823.*

*Advertisement.*—My object in publishing this tract is to recommend those to whom it is addressed, to avoid using harsh or abusive language in their religious intercourse with European Missionaries, either respecting them or the objects of their worship; however much this may be countenanced by the example of some of these Gentlemen.—P. K. T.

### HUMBLE SUGGESTIONS.

Those who firmly believe on the authority of the Veds, that "God is ONE only without an equal;" and that "He cannot be known either through the medium of language, thought, or vision; how can he be known except as existing, the origin and support of the universe?"—and who endeavour to regulate their conduct by the following precept, "He who is desirous of eternal happiness should regard another as he regards himself, and the happiness and misery of another as his own"—ought to manifest the warmest affection towards such of their own countrymen as maintain the same faith and practice; even although they have not all studied the Veds for themselves, but have professed a belief in God only through an acquaintance with their general design. Many among the ten classes of Sunnyasees, and all the followers of Gooroo Nanuk, of Dadoo, and of Kubeer, as well as of Suntu, &c. profess the religious sentiments abovementioned. It is our unquestionable duty invariably to treat them as brethren. No doubt should be entertained of their future salvation, merely because they receive instructions, and practice their sacred music, in the vernacular dialect. For Yajouvkyn, with a reference to those who cannot sing the Hymns of the Veds, has said "The divine hymns Rik, Gatha, Panika, and Dukshubihita should be sung; because by their constant use man attains supreme beatitude." "He who is skilled in playing on the lute (veena), who is intimately acquainted with the various tones and harmonies, and who is able to beat time in music, will enter without difficulty upon the road of salvation." Again, the Shiva Dharma as quoted by Rughoonandan, says, "He is reputed a Gooroo who according to the capacity of his disciple, instructs him in Sungskrit whether pure or corrupt, in the current language of the country, or by any other means."

Amongst foreigners, those Europeans who believe God to be in every sense ONE, and worship HIM ALONE in spirit, and who extend their benevolence to man as the highest service to God, should be regarded by us with affection, on the ground of the object of their worship being the same as ours. We should feel no reluctance to co-operate with them in religious matters, merely because they consider Jesus Christ as the Messenger of God and their Spiritual Teacher; for oneness in the object of worship and sameness of religious practice should produce attachment between the worshippers.

Amongst Europeans, those who believe Jesus Christ to be God himself, and conceive him to be possessed of a particular form, and maintain Father, Son, and Holy Ghost to be one God, should not be treated in an unfriendly manner. On the contrary, we should act towards them in the same manner as we act towards those of our countrymen who, without forming any external image, meditate upon Ram and other supposed incarnations, and believe in their unity.

Again, those amongst Europeans who believing Jesus Christ to be the Supreme Being, moreover construct various images of him, should not be hated. On the contrary, it becomes us to act towards those Europeans in the same manner as we act towards such as believe Ram, &c. to be incarnations of God, and form external images of them. For, the religious principles of the two last mentioned sects of foreigners are one and the same with those of the two similar sects among Hindoos, although they are clothed in a different garb.

When any belonging to the second and third classes of Europeans endeavour to make converts of us, the believers in the only living and true God, even then, we should feel no resentment towards them, but rather compassion, on account of their blindness to the errors into which they themselves have fallen. Since it is almost impossible, as every day's experience teaches us, for men, when possessed of wealth and power, to perceive their own defects.

## A Duftry's Petition.

*To the Editor of the Journal.*

SIR,

Understanding that the gentleman lately appointed Clerk to the Stationery Committee, has resigned, or has it in contemplation to resign, the situation; I take the liberty to solicit the favour of your making known, through your very useful Paper, my humble pretensions as a Candidate to fill the vacancy. My length of service as Head Duftry of the Stationery Warehouse, will amount to twenty-one years next Mohurram, and my testimonials of good conduct, given me by Mr. Thingumbob and others, are such, as in my clear judgment cannot but kick the beam in the scale of qualifications. Be it further known, that the examination of Paper and Quills; the weighing of Sand, both Europe and Country; the measuring of Tape, by the length of the Prophet's sword; and all the et ceteras connected with this responsible situation, invariably devolved upon me. My claims will, I therefore trust, be duly appreciated. But as I am apprehensive of my caste, colour and long beard, operating to my prejudice, and as Retrenchments are things of great moment with all men; I hereby declare that I will most cheerfully and thankfully agree to accept of the appointment on *half the salary*, at present attached to it. Therefore I implore and beseech, that you, benevolent Sir, will in Christian charity, speak favourably of me in your JOURNAL, and you may confidently rely on my faithfully offering *Fatish* to Peer Mahomed, for your everlasting prosperity and good fortune, and commanding all my children to do the like, until my latest posterity shall be extinct from the face of the habitable globe.

I am, Sir, your very humble Servant,

*Khairo Meiter's Lane, }  
March 5, 1823. }*

SHAICK TEENCOWRIE,  
*Head Duftry.*

## The Army and the Press.

Sir,

To the Editor of the Journal.

BRITANNICUS, the courtly Champion of the BULL, is a clever fellow: and he would not make a bad Poet. See how figuratively, metaphorically, and allegorically he writes! If he continue as he has begun, he will soon rival the fame of JUNIUS. He holds the branch of amity in his mouth, and hurls the most virulent hostility from his heart\*—against the JOURNAL. He has no natural antipathy to the exercise of arbitrary power: and nightly reposes listening to the sounds of loyalty, government, and legitimate authority†;—he is favored with pleasant dreams suggested by sanguine hopes and anticipations of ultimate success to Bull-efforts now making to reduce the noble minds of Britons to a state of humility not far removed from vile Asiatic Slavery; and as he is engaged in the good cause of *European Nobles*, he is never once disturbed by the *Night Mare*‡—nor by the Genius of Britain frowning upon BRITANNICUS IMPROBUS.

Abandoning the delightful regions of Poetry, I come to his query.—“Can the JOURNAL still persist in asserting that it was your Paper, (JOHN BULL) which first attempted to connect the Army with the Press?” What you, Mr. Editor, may assert, or say on the subject, I know not; but does not BRITANNICUS know,—for he is known,—that only a few days ago, two Coolies were marched up to Barrackpore groaning under their loads of Tracts, sent from the JOHN BULL Office, in Clive-Street, to be distributed there amongst the quiet, peaceable, and happy Society of Military men of high honor, and proved fidelity and attachment to their Honorable Employers? These Pamphlets were accompanied with notes for every resident at that Station.

Will it not suffice the *Bullies* to have established a Paper, which has disturbed the peace and quiet of this city for years? Will it not suffice them to have created dissensions and ill-blood at Dam Dam, where some of the noblest hearts in India are to be found? I ask, will not these suffice, but that they must also attempt to circulate Pamphlets at Barrackpore, to disquiet the minds of its peaceable inhabitants? Had the NOBLE MARQUESS been here, such doings would never have been tolerated.—He never would have encouraged the propagation of so much Anti-British sentiment; for he never attempted to enslave the minds of his countrymen in India, nor to invade the sacred sanctuary of thought.—He removed the Censorship and encouraged Newspapers, it is true; but he only allowed them to combat in the fair field of argument. When he restricted one Paper from treating on any particular subject, he restricted every other Paper also from so doing: and never permitted any Paper to identify itself with his Government, nor to defend his measures, nor to dive into his opinions, as the BULL now attempts to do. This self constituted organ of the Government should be told, that it will be difficult for him to impose upon the credulity of an enlightened public, so long as THE GOVERNMENT GAZETTE continues to be published. Every man looks to that Paper, to be made acquainted with the sentiments of the RULING AUTHORITIES, on all matters; and will not, for a single moment, entertain the degrading idea, that the presumption and imposition of the BULL, can receive their most oblique sanction. I am yet confident enough to expect, that it will not be long, before the BULL will be interdicted from identifying the party views of the *Bullies* with the acts of the Government. Thus will improper discussion and discord cease; and relieve the anxiety of BRITANNICUS to grab up by the roots of the poison of *Doctrines* propagated through the Press, before they sink deep into mischievous tendency!§

I am, Sir, Your obedient Servant,

A BRITON.

\* “But with the branch of amity in their mouths, they hurl the most virulent hostility from their hearts.”

† “A natural antipathy to the sound of loyalty, government, legitimate authority, and such like words of ‘dark portent.’”

‡ “They appear, if I may use the expression, to be their constant night mare.”

§ “I was anxious to expose its mischievous tendency before the poison of its Doctrines had taken too deep a root.”—*Britannicus*.

## Specimen of Tauric Criticism.

To the Editor of the Journal.

Sir,

Amongst the many brilliant qualities of the Editor of JOHN BULL, there is not one which shines with more dazzling lustre, than the truly chivalrous courtesy with which he disdains to take any mean or paltry advantage of his opponents; and no where does that magnanimous spirit display itself more to advantage, than in that portion of his luminous Paper, which that courteous Editor elegantly styles JOURNALANA—An example, however, will make this more clear than volumes could do; I shall, therefore, take the trouble to transcribe the letter of your Correspondent, and that the bitter railery, the cutting wit, the powerful argument, the caustic satire with which your Cotemporary dissects the Epistle of the unfortunate SCIPIO, may not be lost to an admiring world; I shall subjoin in the form of Notes the JOURNALANA which appeared in the JOHN BULL of this morning: begging, however, you will observe, that your Cotemporary did not republish the letter of poor SCIPIO; and that all the remarks of the Editor on that letter are contained in the JOURNALANA, which I propose laying before you and your readers:

## LETTER OF SCIPIO.

Sir,

I have long been a silent but indignant observer of the conduct of certain persons who, shrouded in darkness, have continued with unrelenting malice to wing their envenomed shafts at the character and fair fame of your Predecessor. Men who loudly vociferated, that they had in their possession the most damning evidence, but who, when their victim boldly dared them to the proof, were reduced to the humiliating necessity of confessing before the most public and solemn tribunal in this country, that they had yet to collect from England, from Egypt, and from Palestine, the proofs they had boasted were already in their possession. It might have been expected that those honorable men would have been abashed by such extreme humiliation, and would have remained silent for the future. But those who are capable of feeling shame or compunction, are not totally lost to honour and right feeling; (a) to suppose therefore those anonymous slanderers capable of feeling either the one or the other, would be paying them infinitely too high a compliment.

Mr. Buckingham having embarked for Europe, and his character and domestic relations having ceased to afford those writers an object on which to vent their spleen, they continue to roll the full tide of their abuse on you, misrepresenting, with their accustomed candour, your motives for becoming Editor of the JOURNAL, and endeavouring to persuade the world, that you are actuated by a spirit of determined and seditious opposition to Government; hoping, no doubt, that this absurd charge, although scouted and laughed at in this country, may gain belief amongst the credulous and ignorant in Europe. (b) You have already, it appears to me, said enough to refute this extravagant charge, but if more should be necessary, your Predecessor will soon be in England to undeceive the credulous and enlighten the ignorant upon the true state of things in this distant appendage of the British Empire. (c)

I would recommend you, therefore, for the future, to allow JOHN BULL and his hopeful Correspondents to rant about Sedition and “Radicalism,” without conferring on them the favour of your notice. So dignified and respectable a line of conduct will give infinite satisfaction to your Subscribers, and will do more to cripple your contentious opponent, than the most determined opposition can do. (d) The JOHN BULL is a Paper beneath your notice; even its Subscribers nod over its somniferous pages and pronounce them dull, and if they continue to be Subscribers, it is more from the force of habit, than from any pleasure they receive from the perusal of the JOHN BULL. That despicable Paper was set on foot for the purpose of villifying the JOURNAL—it is the child of hatred and of strife. Salamander-like, it was hatched, (e) and continues to exist but in the flames of contention; cease then, to furnish this public Pest with its fiery aliment, and ere long it must expire of inanition. (f)

It is to be hoped by the well-wishers of the JOURNAL, that it will avoid faction on the one hand, as much as servility on the other. (g) I know not which is the more detestable; but a writer who values his respectability and would really serve his country will shun both:

*Dextrum Scylla latus, laevum implicata Charybdis  
Obsidet;*”

Governments, like individuals, ought to consider those their truest friends who dare to point out what is amiss; (h) and as, in private life a man is justly esteemed wise, who extracts improvement as well from the unpalatable truths uttered by his bitterest enemy, as from the gen-



the admonitions of the dearest friend, in the same manner Governments, if they are wise, will not be very solicitous to enquire by whom the truth is spoken, but will, by reforming what is defective, confirm the attachment of friends, and silence in the most effectual manner, the reproaches of the turbulent and disaffected.

In pointing out, however, defects in the administration of public affairs, a writer ought to be temperate and respectful in his language; (i) for no Government, can, or ought to submit to be brow-beaten or insulted. Violence and invective, never fail to engender animosities and create in Governments, as in individuals, a more violent and indiscriminating opposition to amendment, than would otherwise have existed; and I cannot therefore consider those, who indulge anonymously or otherwise in writings of so pernicious a tendency, as true friends of their country or mankind.

As an old and sincere friend of the JOURNAL, I hope its future career will be characterized not less by the suavity in *modo* than by the fortiter in *re*: without the due proportion of both, a Public JOURNAL will never be either useful or respectable.

March 10, 1823.

SCIPIO.

NOTE.

We feel deeply indebted to SCIPIO, for the many excellent remarks in the above Letter; (k) and beg to assure him, that we shall always be glad to profit by his communications or advice. We, too, are desirous of noticing our Cotemporary as seldom as possible, although we apprehend that the hostility directed against us, is of too deadly and malignant a nature to be softened by forbearance.—ED.

JOHN BULL'S JOURNALANA UPON THE FOREGOING LETTER.

(a). JOURNALANUM:—"But those who are capable of feeling shame, or compunction, are not totally lost to honor and right feeling"—how wonderful!—those who are capable of feeling shame are not totally lost to right feeling. The discovery of this miraculous truism is just equal in depth of intellect to, "Real respect founded on esteem can only be produced by such qualities as are calculated to inspire it."

(b). JOURNALANUM:—"Hoping no doubt, that this absurd charge (something or other—no matter what—about the Editor of the JOURNAL) may gain belief amongst the credulous and ignorant in EUROPE!!"

(c). JOURNALANUM:—"You have already, it appears to me, said enough to refute this extravagant charge, but if more should be necessary—your Predecessor will soon be in England to undeceive the credulous and ENLIGHTEN the ignorant"—happy England!!

(d). JOURNALANUM:—"So DIGNIFIED and respectable a line of Conduct—(viz.—not conferring the FAVOUR of YOUR notice on the BULL) will do more to cripple your contentions opponent, than the most determined opposition CAN do" somebody would say—Here is a confession, and a jewel of a confession too.

(e). JOURNALANUM:—"Salamander-like it was HATCHED."

(f). JOURNALANUM:—"Cease then to furnish this Public Pest with its fiery aliment, and ere long it must expire of inanition"—another jewel.—The JOURNAL then does furnish the aliment.

(g). JOURNALANUM:—"It is—TO BE—hoped by the well-wishers of the JOURNAL that it will avoid faction on the one hand, as much as servility on the other." This hope, it appears, is TO BE,—but it is of no consequence, for if it existed, like the BULL, it would "expire of inanition."

(h). JOURNALANUM:—"Governments, like individuals, ought to consider those their truest friends who dare to point out—WHAT IS AMISS!!"

(i). JOURNALANUM:—"In pointing out, however, defects in the administration of public affairs, a writer ought to be temperate and respectful in his language"—to be sure *e. g.* ignominy, tyranny, oppression, summary banishment without trial, &c. &c. &c. ad infinitum.

(k). JOURNALANUM:—"We feel DEEPLY indebted to SCIPIO (quere Scipio Radicalis?) for the many EXCELLENT remarks in the above Letter," that is, the letter from which we have extracted the above collection.

So much, Mr. Journalist, for the JOURNALANA which I am sure you will agree with me, are too good to be hid under a bushel. I hope therefore, you will not allow a narrow minded jealousy of superior merit, to prevent your giving that publicity to the JOURNALANA which the BULL cannot give, for it would be a pity, that the merits of such a "jewel" of a critic as your brother Editor has shewn himself to be, should not be universally known and admired.

Perhaps some inquisitive people may inquire, why the Editor of JOHN BULL did not lay the Letter of poor SCIPIO, which he has so unmercifully cut up, before his readers:—I dare not venture to answer this question: but perhaps the Editor thought it would take up too much of his valuable Paper, or peradventure the cautious Editor, could not venture to trust some of his wavering subscribers with such a desperate morceau of "Radicalism."

Pray, Sir, suggest to the Tauric Critic, that since he has given his readers the comment, he ought, for his own sake, to render it intelligible by favouring them with the text.

March 13, 1823.

ASPER.

Cruel Treatment to Children.

To the Editor of the Journal.

SIR,

Taking my accustomed walk through Tank Square the other evening, I was eye witness to a scene to a description of which, for the sake of humanity, I should feel gratified by your assigning a corner in your valuable Paper. The apathy which the Native Nurses in this country shew towards children, is but too evident; but when they add cruelty to neglect, I think their conduct calls loudly for reproof. I have frequently of a morning, when the weather was a little colder, seen the Ayahs when taking the children out to walk, muffled up as though they were going on an excursion to the North Cape, which made it inconvenient for them to carry the children; in such cases, they compelled the poor little things to run after them the best way they could, and all their crying was of little avail. At other times, I have seen them pulling the children along by one hand, little regarding whether they were walking or trailing along the ground. These specimens are surely bad enough, and must naturally be revolting to the heart of a parent; but on Saturday last (the day I before alluded to) I saw a pretty little girl, as I took her to be, of about three years old, apparently deserted by the Maid who ought to have attended her, and who was a couple of hundred yards behind the child, sauntering perfectly at her ease; while a Native Portuguese boy of the age of eleven or twelve, was carrying the little urchin supported by one arm only, evidently giving pain to the child which was crying all the while, and endangering the distortion of her limbs. On perceiving that I was attentively and with indignation watching their motions, the boy put the child down, and the maid shortly joined and took her up in her arms.

That such scenes but too frequently occur when these people are not watched, is reasonable to be supposed, and parents who send their Children thither to walk, will pardon me if I suggest the necessity of their occasionally take a strolling and popping upon those Servants unawares, to see that their Children are not so disgracefully used by that class of persons.

I am, Sir, your obedient Servant

March 11.

HUMANITAS.

Military Arrivals and Departures.

Weekly List of Military Arrivals at, and Departures from, the Presidency.

Arrivals.—Captain J. Maling, Depy. Pay Master, from Cawnpore. Captain B. Roope, 2d Batt. 23d Regt. N. I. from Dinapore. Ensign R. Somerville, 1st Batt. 21st N. I. from Jubbulpoor.

Departures.—J. Gillman, Esq. 2d Member Medical Board, to Europe. Major J. George, 2d Batt. 25th N. I. to ditto. Captain W. Nott, 20th Regt. N. I. to ditto. Captain J. Holbrow, 1st Batt. 1st N. I. to Cawnpore. Captain S. M. Horsburgh, 1st Batt. 19th N. I. to Benares. Lieut. J. C. Lambie, 2d Light Cavalry, to Europe. Lieut. G. Cracklow, 1st Batt. 3d N. I. to ditto.

HIGH WATER AT CALCUTTA, THIS-DAY.

	H. M.
Morning.....	4 28
Evening.....	4 52
Moon's Age.....	3 day

**Calcutta Jail.**

We have received a Letter signed by three Debtor Prisoners in the Calcutta Jail, accompanied by an Advertisement for publication in our Paper, complaining of the conduct of the present Gaoler, and contrasting it with the benevolent treatment experienced by all classes of Prisoners from his predecessor; but we abstain from giving either of these documents publicity, in consideration of the invidiousness of the situation of Gaoler, in which it must indeed be difficult to give satisfaction to all, and as, no specific charges are made, it is impossible for us to judge how far he is to blame. We hope that this notice will sufficiently answer the purpose of the writers, by directing the attention of those who have the control of the Jail, to the subject.

**Superintending Surgeons.**

To the Editor of the Journal.

Sir,

CANDIDUS has gone back to what is now considered obsolete authority, and sought amongst Orders relating to Allowances on return from Furlough, without reference to Vacancies, some passages to prove, that the Medical Board and Superintending Surgeons have no Rank. By a reference to his favorite author, it would appear no Medical Officer has Rank, and I believe the whole department is considered to be (with the exception of Civil Surgeons and Assistant Surgeons) the Medical Staff of the Army. However, in order to shew from his favorite authority,—“Grace’s Code,” that a Surgeon promoted to the rank of Superintending Surgeon is as much in another Grade, as an Assistant Surgeon promoted to a Surgeony; I refer him to General Letter, 21st September 1785, (recorded in Minutes of Council 22d May 1786), for the following information: “Vacancies in the Heads of Hospitals (NOW SUPERINTENDING SURGEONS) to be filled up by the most deserving Regimental Surgeons. The most deserving Hospital Mates, (NOW ASSISTANT SURGEONS) to succeed the Regimental Surgeons;” but the question maintained of its being no Rank, but a Staff Appointment, as regards the right or not to decline the office of Superintending Surgeons, is only a tub to amuse the whale. Obsolete Orders have nothing to do with the subject before us; but practice and usage has; and will shew whether a Surgeon can evade or not the duty of Superintending Surgeon when called to it, without relinquishing all future claim to the situation, and consequently to a seat in the Medical Board.

Doctor Campbell’s case has been shewn to be a “SPECIAL CASE,” and no precedent can be argued on it. It is therefore in a bad spirit that CANDIDUS introduces it again. Doctor W. Hunter’s case is also imperfectly stated, though, by CANDIDUS Letter, he must have been PERFECTLY acquainted with it. Doctor W. H. did apply, but not at the time of his selection for promotion (as on reading the Letter of CANDIDUS might be inferred), and in consequence of his application, the Medical Board were applied to by the Government to know what would be the effect of granting Dr. W. H.’s request, both as it regarded the REGULATIONS and INTERESTS of the Public Service. To this CANDIDUS must be well aware that the Medical Board did not content itself with simply stating, according as I quote from his letter, “strong objections (not founded like P. Q.’s arguments upon any notions of individual benefit by throwing open appointments to the Service, or securing a periodical scramble for practice in Calcutta, such as we were lately edited by) but on the higher doctrine, that previous experience, as Superintending Surgeon, was a requisite qualification for the duties of the Board.” No, Sir, this was not the whole of the Board’s reply, and CANDIDUS could have told you that, the Board declared they could not find any Regulation applicable, any that was for, or would militate against, a compliance with Dr. W. H.’s request.

That they considered it as not probable that a provision should be made for a request so unlikely to occur; as that of a Junior Surgeon when called to the Post of a Superintending

Surgeon wishing to decline, even for a time, the higher PAY and PENSION annexed to what is the usual and regular STEP to a seat in the Board.

That they considered the general effect, if the wish were granted, as likely to be prejudicial to the public service, unless special care were taken to prevent the abuse which might be made by some future Government of the precedent.

That they pointed out the probability of future Surgeons wishing to forego their claim to it, and particularised PRESIDENCY SURGEONS as most likely to do so; stating as a reason THEIR HAVING PRIVATE PRACTICE AND HOLDING OTHER APPOINTMENTS.

They pointed out the possibility, were the indulgence granted and extended to Presidency Surgeons, that the Medical Board, might eventually be filled by men who had never done a day’s duty with Military Hospitals, when its Members, though possessing high professional talent, would be unqualified for the business of the Board.

They concluded by saying, they did not think any of their remarks applicable to Dr. W. H. but if his request should be granted, they recommended it so to be done, as effectually to prevent its being drawn into a precedent. This is what a candid man would have told your Correspondents was the substance of the Medical Board’s opinions on the subject of Dr. W. H.’s wishes, and he would not have so concealed them as to give an idea, as CANDIDUS has done, of the Board’s being satisfied on all other points, by having introduced those objections ONLY, which militate against a Surgeon’s entering the Board, without having first passed through the Official duties of a Superintending Surgeon. This is matter in point, and decidedly, on the HIGHEST GROUNDS have opinions been pronounced against the practice, and in favor of which the Medical Board have declared, they could find NO PRECEDENT.

To satisfy CANDIDUS with more arguments in favor of RANK and PROMOTION, and also to shew what is usual in respect to Civil Surgeons when selected for this duty (for Military Surgeons are promoted at once without asking them if it be agreeable or otherwise, and I fancy if they demurred the Pension List would be open to them) I shall observe, that Mr. A. R. was called upon to determine, whether he would avail himself of the option of PROMOTION to the RANK of Superintending Surgeons, or continue in his situation (then a Presidency Surgeon) RELINQUISHING ALL CLAIM TO FUTURE PROMOTION.

I did not in my former letter mean to say, that Dr. William Hunter waved his claim; but that Dr. H. who was Junior to Dr. W. R. waved his claim (for the purpose mentioned) in his (Dr. W. R.’s) favor.

I agree with CANDIDUS, that it is of little consequence who he is, or indeed who any man is, who writes not to be known; but it is of consequence that unknown Writers should not introduce by name, or designate by any means such Gentlemen as may be really or even apparently interested parties in the question they discuss:—both, however, has been done, but it is no small satisfaction to find, that he who was the first by implication to attach a name to the production of GRYPHIUS PES, is the loudest also to declaim against such practices, when one more interested on his side of the question, is considered as the author of CANDIDUS.

Your’s obediently,

P. Q.

P. S.—Irrelevant matter I have not replied to: therefore the cases of election mentioned by CANDIDUS were not noticed. However, it must be presumed, none were passed over but by virtue of Regulation; the Medical Board by the spirit of all the Rules and Regulations, have the power to pass over unqualified persons: but not by the letter, the power of using (CONTRARY TO SENIORITY) selection. It cannot however be seriously argued, that this implies a right in the Civil Surgeon selected, to decline the RANK which by Seniority he is arrived at. To me it appears to have nothing to do with it.

P. Q.



# ASIATIC DEPARTMENT.

—205—

## Varieties of the Indian Press.

After the long period of profound peace that has passed at the Sister Presidency unenlivened almost by an Editorial skirmish, the following brisk attack upon the *Courier* by his Contemporary of the *Gazette* presents a novelty of an extraordinary kind; and we leave our readers to determine whether it betokens that the Censorship is relaxing its fangs, or that such discussions as the following are the boon which a "well-regulated Press," (as it is emphatically called) would confer upon this country, as the most effectual means of dispelling superstition and prejudice, and spreading the blessings of knowledge and good government among the millions of Asia:—

**Madras Gazette.**—Our expectations of being enabled to fill our present number with copious European Intelligence by the arrival of the Ship *MARQUESS OF HASTINGS* have again been disappointed—we cannot however think that the ensuing week will elapse without her appearance:—and in the dearth of public local intelligence we must advert to a little recrimination from our Contemporary of the *Courier*.—He has been justly displeased with us—but if ours was an angry philippic—surely his exhibits a "hasty precis."

Mr. Editor, allow us to desire your Peon, Mr. Proser—Sawmy to remove the bottle of gall from your office desk, wherein you dipped your goose-quill, and restore the *Black dose*—thereby dissipating all acrimonious and vitiated humours—by the by—Mr. Editor, what an indecent allusion you made to the bilious feelings which you supposed to have actuated us—highly indelicate!—pardonable, because it was a physical, not a moral defect—was it necessary . . . . . We will not pursue the subject further—dismiss, we repeat, the gall-bottle and substitute the black liquid—

"Ink, which Bruce has often sold"—Ink of course we mean.—4 propos, he has blue Ink, if you are ever affected with Blue Devils. This liquid might perhaps express your feelings in more appropriate characters—Pray, Brother Editor, let us on the heat and flame of our distemper sprinkle cool patience—let us leave this keen encounter of our wits and fall somewhat into a slower method—Your deprecation of Editorial controversy does not surpass ours—for what have our readers to do with our disputes and thrusting them into their notice resembles a man amusing a large company with how many horses he has in his Stable, and whether his Servant is more rogue than a fool—

In sober truth then, we must confess that in this instance our Contemporary of the *Courier* is "more sinned against than sinning"—There are minds possessing "pride which not a world can bow"—yet it is a proper pride—a feeling that has the generosity to confess conscious error with the same alacrity that it would notice an intentional insult—Brother Editor!—our philippic was unprovoked and unnecessary—we are on this occasion "all in the wrong"—and have been playing "the comedy of errors"—Our indignation was excited by a suspicion, from the recital of which we will refrain from trespassing on the patience of our Readers—Under an erroneous impression we acted too suddenly upon ideas without allowing reflection to justify our impulse.—A mind of sensibility is equally wounded by that civility which appears to condescend, and that insolence which wears the form of contempt—under no such feeling do we recommend that the veil of oblivion be thrown over the past—We deprecate as severely as yourself editorial controversy—attacking measures and not men sounds very fine in theory, but practice shews it a dangerous experiment—We will over a cool bottle of *Loll Shrob* explain to you the cause of our indignation, leaving you full liberty to divulge it *cum voce* or through your columns.

We repeat, we are on this occasion in error—does that satisfy you, Brother Editor of the *Courier*? We recommend forgetfulness of the past, and shall not revive this subject, *unless compelled*—if you persevere

"By the gods  
"You shall digest the venom of your spleen,  
"Tho' it do split you: for from that day forth,  
"We'll use you for our mirth, yea for our laughter,  
"When you are waspish."

We have to thank you for two hints—the one recommendation is to attend a little more to our own paper, and less to yours—the other to search the Columns of the *Gazette* for the last six or seven years, to discover whose sentiments its Editor adopted.

Touching the first advice we shall profit by the observation—with regard to the second, be not offended, gentle Editor, we cannot adopt your counsel—we feel fully sensible what a falling off is there, and a reference to splendid proofs of the talents of our predecessors, would only tinge our cheeks with the conscious blush of shame, by a contrast of the former excellence of the *Gazette* with its present condition.—However to the point—you shall quote every publication you think

proper without molestation from us—from "Rhymes for the Nursery up to Spurzheim and Gall—from Johnson's influence of Tropical Climates to his *diseases of literature*.—We have in this instance been the first to throw down the gauntlet—but the sword of controversy shall be sheathed on our part, unless you are disposed to continue the combat.—To what good the latter alternative would tend we know not—abandon your bill of indictment against us for an attempt to kill you with laughter—unless you retain Momms for your Counsel—submit the cause to the Court of Ridicule—and name the 1st of April for the commencement of trial—even then we must allow judgment to go by default.—We dare say that the presumptive cause of your demise, is at present convulsing the sides of our respective readers.

We transcribe the following two Paragraphs from a Calcutta Journal.—They advert to a Paper once printed and edited by the great Benjamin Franklin.

"I possess one of these Gazettes, composed by him, and printed at his press. It is a precious relic, a monument which I wish to preserve with reverence, to teach men to blush at the prejudice which makes them despise the useful and important profession of the Editor of a Daily Paper. Men of this profession, among a free people, are their first Preceptors, and best friends; and when they unite talents with patriotism and philosophy, when they serve as the canal for communicating truths, for dissipating prejudices, and removing those hatreds which prevent the whole human race from uniting together in one great family, these men are the Curates, the Missionaries, the Angels deputed from heaven for the happiness of men.

"Let it not be said, in ridicule of this profession, that an ill use is sometimes made of it, for the defence of vice, of despotism, of errors; shall we proscribe eloquence, and the use of speech, because wicked men possess them?"

Our Contemporary dubs us a short sighted scion of pollution—amiable in the extreme!—and nominally true, had the term applied to our Printer.

In conclusion, Brother Editor, we have only to repeat the confession of our error—we indulge in no private spleen and will most cordially join you in promoting philanthropy, peace and good-will. Life is too short for disputation about trifles—"therefore let us endeavour to dissipate all prejudices, by removing all obstacles to our society uniting together in one family." We can only express our determination that the "*Gazette*" shall not prove the *AVANT COURIER* of discord.

**Madras, March 1, 1823.**—The CATHERINE, Captain Knox, will sail for England this evening.

We have received a Letter from an Officer of His Majesty's Ship *LIFFEY*, stating that the Commodore was undecided as to his visiting us or proceeding to Penang.—*Madras Gazette*.

**Dinapore, March 5, 1823.**—"The detachment of Artillery, under the command of Capt. Webb, left this station, this morning, on their way by water, to the Presidency. Early in the morning a few of the men were out, bathing, about the Bujarows, and a fine young lad, of the name of Jackson, sunk suddenly; and although every exertion was made, the body has not, as yet, been found. The place is very deep, and it is supposed he must have come in contact with some raft, floating about, or sunk under one of the Bujarows. The weather is now very fine, the Thermometer, at 74."—*John Bull*.

**Musical Party at Lucknow.**—We learn from Lucknow, that on Friday, the 28th ultimo, His Majesty the King of Oude gave a magnificent Musical party to the Resident, and his family and suite—to the Officer commanding the Military at the cantonments, and all the European Gentlemen and Ladies of Lucknow and its neighbourhood. On this occasion, for the first time, his Majesty and some branches of the Royal family, his Prime Minister, &c., were entertained with European vocal Music in a style of excellence which his Majesty appeared to appreciate very highly, as appeared by his warm expressions of gratification and satisfaction.

The patronage which his Majesty has of late extended to Music, as well as other branches of the fine arts, demonstrate the liberality of his heart and the refinement of his taste.—*India Gazette*.

**Bachelor's Ball.**—Had Destiny provided a Mask and Fancy Ball, we might have been supplied with sufficiency of incident to fill some columns at least, not without a hope of amusing many. We could have dilated upon bowers and banners, and metamorphosed whimsicalities and strains of minstrelsy. As it fell out, we are confined to the common-place field of a dancing assembly, which offers nothing for the imagination to dwell upon, with the exception of the pretty faces one sees there; which, however interesting to behold, are not at all so to be described—and which, with all the other fascinations of the fair ones who honored the Bachelor's Ball with their delightful presence, served only to render still more lamentable, beings who are sufficiently so already. This observation may startle our readers, but we speak advisedly—yea, coolly and dispassionately; for what can be more lamentable

than the effect of that Ball and its heart-stealing concomitants on several brave sons of single nature, who were erst as free as air—aye, and as light? Undoubtedly many went there who carried away more than they had bargained for—such as, 'thoughts that burn,' longings for secluded *tete a tete* in shady recesses, sighings after stiken fetters of congenial sympathies, half wishes for rings and altars, and fillets of hymeneal bondage, and painful wringings of the left side, with arts, parts, darts, and flames innumerable! He who had eyes to see, might behold a *Lamentable* here and there, lounging lugubriously with arms a-kimbo, gazing abstractedly after some Houris, that with sylph-like movement flitted before him, and his glance expressing as eloquently as glance could, the ominous anticipation of the ill-fated *Romeo*:

—'My mind misgives  
Some consequence, yet hanging in the stars,  
Shall bitterly begin his fearful date  
With this night's revels'—

Some of the oldest cocks of the walk were winged, we suspect by the shafts of the 'boygod,' and might be seen fluttering along and

'Dragging at each remove a lengthening chain.'

For ourselves it afforded us no small entertainment to look quietly on and behold how the fishes disported themselves in the great Polar Basin of fashion before us. There was a good deal of harpooning, we believe, among the whales or lamentables—or whatever title may be most applicable for the occasion. Some had an exceedingly greenlandish appearance, and masses of beautiful *Ice* occasionally floated along, after which Polar Bears of all sorts and sizes were swimming most assiduously!

Luckily the temperature of the weather was more than endurable—it was pleasant. The fashionables were most punctual in keeping away one hour later than nine o'clock. This is as it should be. It is quite casaillish to be seen at the thin, meagre opening of a ball. Quite out of the current of *haut ton*. Nothing like that charming delaying, dawdling dilatoriness, which sets the honest and simple plodders of punctuality to a minute, yawning! It is quite edifying to see these pulling out watches, while Ladies from the Mofussal feel quite damped at finding *inania arcana* an empty hall, where they expected the most delicious squeezing and crowding; and then commence a few desultory squeaks of violins—till lo, the 'nine muses' in the balcony Parnassus at one end strike up a storm of merry melody—a country dance set is made—and just as those who have figured in it are puffing and blowing at the conclusion, *Enter* the fashionables sailing and shimmering, and looking beyond description exquisitely willing. When the rooms were pretty tolerably filled, the business of the evening commenced with *hopping*, but soon dissolved into *gliding*, by which we entreat it to be understood that the first act of the Comedy was a kitchen dance, and the second a quadrille. The Saltation, if we recollect right, consisted mostly of gliding during the whole evening, with the exception of some admirable specimens of *jerking* in the quick movement of the Spanish dance, and a few flourishes of Sabinianism, by which we beg our readers to remember that we wishing *sauteing* to be understood. There may be too much of a good thing. For variety's sake we wish we had other Spanish dances, and albeit other quadrilles. Even Addison confessed, that looking constantly on the same hills and vallies was tiresome. Really that Spanish dance is something of stale (to use the idiom of the United States), and the Quadrilles that have been thumped so long on the belaboured boards of the poor Town Hall by so many heels of genius and without, are considerable of ancient. Not that we would rashly vote for measutres of Reform in the matter of gliding, jerking and hopping. Oh, by no means: we lean extremely to Toryism in the article of Dancing. Whatever is most excellent. When we reflect on the vast difficulties that stand in the way of a change in the dancing system as it stands, we almost tremble for the consequences should the Saltatory *Radicals* succeed in altering the Constitution of things. There were fearful indications of a leaning to a military despotism, and the cry for the *Lancers* at one time became alarmingly general! There are in this good city as elsewhere, mortals of most astounding ambition—no less than courage. These are they who have nerve enough to cry out to the *Amphionites* to play the '*Lancers*,' though quite aware that their neighbours, as far from being any great *shakers* at the *Lancers*, can hardly smuggle and wriggle themselves through Payne's old set. However, this is human nature, and it is pleasant to see the freshness of nature ruffling up its starchy verdure, even in a ball room. The philosopher recognises greatness even under its disguise of Dandyism; and greatness, wherever it is, has a claim which we all of us silently bow to in spite of us. A great Quadrille dancer is a being peculiarly and indescribably great—in his own estimation, especially when he can dance the *Lancers* among a circle of shepherders, in the midst of whom he balances himself exquisitely between the three or more *Graces* who foot it with him. One often pounces upon his neighbour with a display of some recondite knowledge, which he is aware that the other is profoundly ignorant of. There are Pedants

in dancing as well as in literature, sonorous wights who amaze their quite companions with the '*cosmogony*' of Saltation. The ambitious to shine in the gliding lists, called, as we stated, for the '*Lancers*'. The tone was played, and the results was awful—yea, very tremendous! It seemed as if each individual had got a touch of St. Vitus;—one dragged this way, another wheeled that way, a third quivered either way, a fourth bolted neither way, and so they hurried in all directions, each asking his neighbour the way, like travellers bewildered in a fog, (such as may be often seen in the misty locality of this city) and striking and bobbing against each other to the imminent danger of turbans, feathers, fictitious tresses, trains flownces, furbelows, and any thing which a spur can lay hold of—or the spread eagle arms of an awkward man, come in contract with. To remedy this, we would recommend those who pant so much to dance the *Lancers* or any other figure, to rehearse the same somewhere before they venture to show off at the Town Hall.

The evening was so remarkably cool and pleasant; that we almost regretted the determination which kept masks and fancies out of the entertainment. It was the least numerously attended Bachelor's Ball we ever witnessed. Let it not be supposed from this, that the exhibitions were either a meagre or a poor one; compared with common dancing assemblies, perhaps it was the best of the season; but as a Bachelor's Ball, we repeat it, there was a sad failing off not only in numbers, but in spirit and effect. What is the cause that Bachelor's Balls have deteriorated? can it have arisen from a deterioration in the Bachelors themselves? Heaven forbid—but we have some misgivings on the subject. The *Esprit du Corps* seem on the wane. We missed several Lamentables and demi-Lamentables from the last Ball, who were wont to delightfully engloom former ones with their attendance. There were also many missing who had seceded from the ranks, and gone over to the ministerial benches of the matrimonials;—persons who, tired of doing better, retrograde into doing well. There is the highest authority, that those who marry do well—but that those who remain single, do better.

It remains that we should bring to a conclusion all this lamentable prosing. This we do by seriously giving it as our opinion, that the Bachelor's Ball was a highly agreeable entertainment, all in all. There were many Mofussalites and strangers present, who seemed to enjoy the scene with no small relish. Supper was served up, or rather down, at a good hour; and in all its details, it appeared to us the very best Supper we have seen in the Town Hall. It did credit no less to the care and attention of the worthy Stewards than to the abilities and zeal of Messrs. GUYER and HOOPER. Every thing was excellent in its kind, and tastefully laid out, and the wines gave the fullest satisfaction. In a word, things were as they should be.—After the refection, Colonel MARLEY, the President of the Bachelors, gave a sudden impetus to the enthusiasm of those at the head of whose ranks he stood chief, by proposing a bumper to the '*Ladies*.' Every Lamentable was instantly on his legs, and the Hall sounded with the cheers which greeted such a soul stirring toast. Dancing was resumed afterwards. The Waltzers, we believe, had it all to themselves for some time. What happened posteriorly we know not, but by hearsay from which we learn that several Lamentables re-descended into the supper room—there to console themselves for the lugubrious Destiny of their lot, and to 'drown it in the bowl.'—*India Gazette*.

### Court of Requests.

CALCUTTA, —THURSDAY, MARCH 13, 1823.

#### COOK VERSUS GOLDWORTHY.

The Plaintiff, a Livery Stable Keeper, residing in the Darrumtollah, south to recover from the Defendant, the sum of 105 Sicca Rupees for the hire of a Carriage, Buggies, and Horses.

The Defendant did not deny the correctness of the Plaintiff's demand, but rested his defence, upon the ground of his residing in the 24-Pargunnahs, which precluded him from being made amenable to the Jurisdiction of the Court.

Mr. McLEOD (the Sitting Commissioner,) then examined the Plaintiff, who deposed to the correctness of his demand, and stated that the Defendant was employed as an Assistant to one of the Attornies of the Supreme Court, whose office was in the Town of Calcutta.

Mr. McLEOD having referred to the Proclamation of the Governor General in Council, creating the Court of Requests, which declares that "any person or persons whomsoever inhabiting or seeking a livelihood in the Town of Calcutta, and settlement of Fort William, shall be liable to the process of that Court," again called upon the Defendant to state, his objection (if any) to the correctness of the demand made against him which not being attended to, he gave a Verdict for the Plaintiff.



**The Friend of India.**

SIR, To the Editor of the *Sumnochar Chundrika*.

I have intended to give a descriptive account of whatever has been published in the treatise entitled "THE FRIEND OF INDIA," from its commencement to this time. I now hand you a concise description of the first number of this publication to which I hope you will give publicity for the information of your readers. The object of writing this, is, that they may judge whether the name (Friend of India) is properly applied to this publication or not, what benefit is gained in this country from its circulation,—and what probability there exists of its affording any advantage. If you publish this, I will furnish you with a description of its subsequent numbers. The contents of the first number, are as follows:—The introduction of the work—Reflections on the conversion to, and propagation of Christianity in Bengal, from the year 1718 to 1818. An account of the Societies instituted among the followers of it. Anecdote respecting the Religion of the Rev. Messrs. Kirrander, Brown, N. Chamber, Burney, and C. Grant. Death of M<sup>s</sup>. Moore. The arrival of the Rev. Messrs. Sutton, Adam, Coleman, and Whilock, in this country. Meeting of the Bible Society, its description. Relation of the institution of Bible Societies in New South Wales, America, Germany, Sweden and Russia. Translation of the Bible into the Tartary, Poost and Hunkun languages. Printing of the Veds, Description, i.e. a ridiculing of the Car of the God Juggernaut\*. Want of affection found in Hindoos in their funeral rite. Their hardness of heart—Burning of Widows†. The female murder of Hindoos. The importance of converting the people of this country to Christianity.

**JUR-BHURUT.**

\* Is not an attempt to prevent a body of men from destroying their own lives, by throwing themselves under the care of a wooden image, to be regarded as an act of a Friend?

† Is not an endeavour to dissuade one from immersing his own parent, when severely taken ill into the mud and water of the Ganges even in the midst of severe winter nights, to be considered as an act of friendship?

‡ Is not one's trying to prevent a deluded woman from committing suicide, a laudable and friendly act?

NOTE.—The above translation from the *SUMACHAR CHUNDRIKA*, was handed to us by an intelligent native, with the notes as appended, requesting us to publish them, which we feel great pleasure in doing.—*Editor of the Hurkaru.*

**New South Wales.**

**Emigration to the Coast of Africa.**—We have been favored with the following extract from a letter received in town from Mr. Baillie, who, our readers will probably recollect, quitted a permanent situation in this country, and, with a large family, proceeded, in the hope of bettering his fortune, with the first English settlers who emigrated to the Cape of Good Hope, under the auspices of government, in 1820. The letter is dated "the Hope, near Bathurst, Cape of Good Hope, Dec. 3, 1821," and affords matter of consolation to those who were disposed to apprehend the total failure of this speculation:—

"The opening for commerce is now better than ever for our part of the country. The problem of the anchorage off the Kowie river, and the entrance over the bar, were solved by the *ELIZABETH* schooner. She left Algoa Bay with a freight principally for government, anchored off the Kowie on the evening of the 8th November, rode safe and easy through the night, although it blew fresh, and the next day weighed anchor at half tide, and came over the bar with even her fore topgallant-sail set, without shipping a single spray. She discharged her cargo and careened alongside the shore as at a wharf. There is a vessel of 50 tons register, which has been built at Cape Town, for the purpose of coasting from thence into the Kowie and back. Whenever it may please the Almighty to allow us to have good crops, we shall be sure of sending our surplus, particularly of butter, cheese, bacon, hams, salt beef, and leather, to Cape Town and to the Mauritius. Pigs, that were very scarce indeed amongst us, when we first arrived, begin now to be pretty plentiful.

"The change effected in the appearance of the country, since the arrival of the first settlers in April, 1820, is wonderful. At Algoa Bay, the town of Port Elizabeth, where there were only two houses, boasts now of thirty and upwards. Graham's Town, consisted then, of twenty-two houses, now of sixty and upwards: fifty more building lots are granted and measured out, and must be built upon within the twelve-month or forfeited. Bathurst has sprung from the wilderness completely, and contains, built or building, between forty and fifty houses, besides handsome barracks. Upwards of 70 building lots, in all, have been granted or sold, and must consequently be shortly built upon. Another town is now forming on the right bank of the Kowie, not far from the mouth, which will increase in ratio with the navigation of that river, and the trade carried on.

"Fredericksburg, across the Fish river, was only founded in June, 1821, and contains already twenty-six houses built, besides the barracks, and nearly as many more building. All the towns, which I have now mentioned, have been founded under the authority of government. Be-

sides these, there are a number of very decent villages, built by the different parties of settlers. One in particular I shall mention, which is important from its size, and the order with which their affairs are conducted, both spiritual and temporal. I mean Salem, founded by the party which came from England under the direction of Hezekiah Sephton. The town consists of 75 houses: the remainder of the party are in three neighbouring vallies. They have a market every Thursday. Their temporal concerns as a body, are under the direction of a committee of 11: their minister is a Mr. Shaw. They have an every day School and a Sunday-school. They are dissenters (Methodists.) Religion is the tie that binds this numerous party together. The Court of Circuit sat at Bathurst in October; and the Dutch code of laws, and manner of administering justice, so much deprecated by the settlers, and for which they so much wished to substitute Trial by Jury, and God knows what, was universally pronounced to be strictly in equity, and devoid of all quibble, and, if it had a fault, it was too lenient. I am sorry to say, rice and flour are at a most ruinous price; retail rice, 6d. per lb; coarse flour (that is, with all the bran in it), 6d.; fine flour, 9d and 10; potatoes (what few are brought to market) are ten to twelve and fourteen rix-dollars the sack. We value the rix dollar, in our dealings between ourselves, at 2s. sterling. Potatoes are likely, rapidly, to become cheaper, as there are now immense quantities planted and planting. Indian corn or maize seems to prosper well with all who take any trouble in cultivating it. The cause of the failure of our crops is beyond all doubt atmospheric, and not occasioned, as some have stated, by the nitre contained in the soil.—*Sydney Gazette, Nov. 15.*

**Right of Road on another's Farm.**—On Friday last the 1st of November, an action for trespass was brought before the Governor's Court, wherein Sir John Jamison, knight, was plaintiff, and Mr. James Badgery, settler at the South Creek, defendant. The damages were laid at £50. The substance of the complaint against the defendant was simply as follows:—Mr. Badgery had resided upon his present farm for a great number of years, and was in the habit of occasionally visiting the Nepean, at which place he had purchased another farm. In 1815 the defendant, to save himself the trouble of prosecuting the highway from his own residence to his Nepean farm, made a road across Lord's Folly farm, by which he lessened the distance about 1½ mile. This cross-road, which had received the name of "Badgery's road," had been open for the last seven years. This farm (Lord's Folly) became the property of the plaintiff, who had the whole, for many miles round, securely fenced in; in accomplishing which object, Badgery's road was necessarily shut up. A few months since, the defendant, with his family, on their return from Richmond, thought proper to pursue his favorite, and, what he esteemed, his own road.—When he came to the fence upon the side nearest to his farm, it was discovered to be closed up by a strong railing. Without the least hesitation, Mr. Badgery dismounted, and broke down the fence, having previously offered a government servant of the plaintiff, two dollars for an axe, to enable him to destroy the fence; at the same time affirming he would take it down as fast as Sir John could put it up. The defendant proved, that this road, or path, had been used by very few individuals, and principally by members of his own family. Mr. Solicitor Norton, for the plaintiff, said that pecuniary recompence was not the object of the present action; but that his client had been led to institute it, in order to discover whether, what he considered private property, was to be infringed upon at any moment, and to be laid waste every time the defendant chose to come that way. The case seemed to be merely a question of right between the parties, Mr. Garling, for the defendant, urging his client's prior and legal claim to the road, upon the ground of custom and convenience. In his remarks upon so extremely important a point, His Honor the JUDGE ADVOCATE, adverted to the present perplexing state of the Colony, wholly arising out of this immense evil, which nothing but the interference of the Executive could at all alleviate, or tend to remove. Some farms in the interior, were so completely blocked in, that it was quite impracticable to form a passage (to or fro, to one's estate, without trespassing upon some private land or other, unless the owners were kind enough to oblige their neighbours till the Government benignly interposed its much-required aid. In the present case, however, it did not seem that there was that evil or inconvenience existing; but that the defendant might easily go to the Nepean farm, or to the church or races at Richmond, by pursuing the high road, which only led him, at the most, 1½ mile round; and what inconvenience could this be when there are proprietors of landed property entirely enclosed by surrounding estates? From a seven years' occupancy, the defendant claimed the right of going through the plaintiff's estate, although positively forbidden. The proprietor of Lord's Folly estate, for public convenience, and consonant to the right of the Crown, had actually left an open road crossing the estate in question, known by the name of the Mulgoa-road, said to have been established 15 years, communicating with the Western-road, from thence to Castlereagh, Richmond, and Windsor. The plaintiff was willing to grant permission, as an act of neighbourly kindness, and would have had shifting rails; but "No! (says the defendant) it is my right, and I will be under no such obligation." This was the subject of the action. A verdict was given for the plaintiff. Damages 40s. and full costs.—*Sydney Gazette, Nov. 8.*

**A Lounge's Reply.***To the Editor of the Journal.*

SIR,

Have the goodness to present my compliments to C. in the HURKARU, and assure him from me, that I never meant to doubt his assertions with respect to the causes assigned in his letter, for removing the benches in question from Tank Square; all I meant to intimate, and I believe, I expressed myself to that effect, was, that the cause itself was futile.

How ridiculous to be told that in a populous City like this, where an efficient Police is established, (not that I have any wish to panegyrize our Chowkeydars for their *overmuch vigilance*.) it was thought necessary to withdraw the seats from a Public Promenade; thereby, inconveniencing a considerable part of the community, because, forsooth, a handful of disorderly people could not be prevented from sleeping on the benches, though there are no less than four Sentries placed at the two principal entrances, and in spite of the establishment of a Police Tannah within the Ballostrade of the square itself. If, as C. informs us, the benches have really been withdrawn on that account, (and I have no reason to doubt his word,) the act, I fear, is a tacit reflexion on our worshipful Magistrates, and plainly intimates that greater vigilance might be exacted.

I am, once more,

A LOUNGER.

**Shipping Arrivals.****MADRAS.**

Date	Names of Vessels	Flags	Commanders	From Whence	Left
Feb. 26	Tender Cochin	British	E. Tincombe	Trincomalie	Feb. 22
27	Mermaid	British	C. A. Harris	Manilla	Jan. 17

**Shipping Departures.****CALCUTTA.**

Date	Names of Vessels	Flags	Commanders	Destination
Mar. 13	Resolution	Portg.	J. L. Barbalho	Lisbon

**MADRAS.**

Date	Names of Vessels	Flags	Commanders	Destination
Feb. 26	Catherine	British	G. Wallace	Calcutta
27	Termagant	British	R. G. Dunlop	London

**Stations of Vessels in the River.**

CALCUTTA, MARCH 13, 1823.

At Diamond Harbour.—CONDE DE RIO PARDO, (P.), EXMOUTH INDIAN OAK, and BRITANNIA, inward-bound, remain.

Kedgerie.—LORD WELLINGTON, (P.), outward-bound, remains.

Saugor.—DAVID SCOTT, outward-bound, remains.—PRINCE OF ORANGE, MARGARITTA ROZA, (P.), and H. C. Ship THAMES, gone to Sea.

**Ships Advertised for Different Ports.**

Ships' Names.	Commanders.	Where Bound.	Probable time of Sailing.
Resource, .....	B. Fenn, .....	London, .....	All March
Mangles, .....	J. Cogill, .....	London, .....	1st April
Exmouth, .....	G. Evans, .....	London, .....	1st April
Minerva, .....	— Bell, .....	London, .....	In a few days
Woodford, .....	Alfred Chapman, ..	London, .....	1st April
Clydesdale, .....	D. Mackellar, ..	Liverpool, .....	All April
Duc de Bordeaux, ..	— Moreau, .....	Bordeaux, .....	In a few days
Hero of Malown, ..	— Neish, .....	Eastward, .....	Ditto.

**Marriage.**

At Meerut, on the 12th ultimo, by the Reverend Mr. FISHER, Quarter Master Serjeant W. A. DICKINSON, of the 4th Cavalry, to Miss MARY ANN CATHARINE PRICE, Daughter of the late Quarter Master Serjeant PRICE, 1st Light Cavalry.

**Commercial Reports.***(From the Calcutta Exchange Price Current of Thursday last.)*

	Rs.	As.		Rs.	As.
Cotton, Jaloon, .....	14	0	a	14	8
Catchoura, .....	12	8	a	13	8
Grain, Rice, Patna, .....	2	2	a	2	4
Patchery, 1st, .....	2	4	a	2	8
Ditto, 2d, .....	1	12	a	1	14
Moongy, 1st, .....	1	8	a	1	9
Ditto, 2d, .....	1	6	a	1	7
Ballum, 1st, .....	1	1	a	1	2
Wheat, Dooda, .....	1	2	a	1	3
Gram, Patna, .....	1	5	a	1	8
Dhall, Urruhr, good, .....	1	11	a	1	12
Indigo, Fine purple and violet, .....	290	0	a	295	0
Ordinary ditto, .....	280	0	a	285	0
Dull blue, .....	260	0	a	270	0
Inferior purple and violet, .....	240	0	a	250	0
Strong copper, .....	275	0	a	285	0
Ordinary ditto, .....	230	0	a	240	0
Onde, fine, .....	250	0	a	260	0
Ditto, ordinary, .....	200	0	a	220	0
Saltpetre, Culmee, 1st sort, .....	5	0	a	5	8
2d sort, .....	4	8	a	4	12
3d sort, .....	4	0	a	4	4

Indigo—Continues in steady demand, and the market clearing fast—the French are still in the market, and considerable shipments going on for England—The following is a statement of the exportation to the 28th ultimo, viz.—

Great Britain, mannds 48,312; Foreign Europe, 16,203; America, 6,526; Persian Gulph, &c. 3,992; Total Maunds, 77,033—By the Honourable Company 8,284.

Cotton—We have heard of no sales in this during the week—our quotations are almost nominal. At Mirzapore, on the 4th instant, new Banda was quoted at 18 0, and Catchoura at 16 per local maund. At Jeagunge, on the 6th instant, new Banda was nominally stated at 15 4 to 15 6, and Catchoura at 13-12 to 14 per maund, but no sales going on—stock 22,500 maunds.

Sugar—Dull, and looking down.

Saltpetre—In limited demand—a heavy stock in the market, and prices rather declining.

Piece Goods—On the decline, and little chance of immediate improvement.

Grain—Continues in fair demand at our quotations.

Dye Stuffs—Lac Dye, fine, looking up—Shell, in fair demand, at our quotations—Munjeet, dull, and very little good in the market—Gall Nuts, steady, at our quotations.

Metals—Spelter has declined about four annas per maund, since our last—Iron, Swedish and English, dull, but steady, at our quotations—Lead Pig, looking up—Sheet, on the decline—Copper, Sheathing, selling in small parcels, at our quotations.

Pepper—Eastern, has fallen about two annas per maund, since our last.

China Goods—Generally in fair demand, and looking up.

Freight to London—May be rated at £1-15 to £7 per ton.

**Births.**

At Midnapore, on the 10th instant, the Lady of Major D'AGUILAR, 13th Regiment, of a Daughter.

At Madras, on the 25th ultimo, the Lady of J. MACLEOD, Esq. of a Son.

At Cocanada, on the 28th of January, the Lady of HENRY SEWELL, Esq. of a Daughter.

**Deaths.**

At Madras, on the 29th of January, of a fever, at the Presidency Cantonment, CATHERINE, Daughter of Serjeant COOK, of the Ordnance Department, aged 8 years, 4 months, and 10 days.

At Nundidroog, on the 20th ultimo, of a fever, Lieutenant FRANCIS SEALE, 2d Battalion 9th Regiment, aged 22 years. An Officer beloved, and deservedly regretted, by his Brother Officers.

On the 27th ultimo, the Wife of Mr. E. D'ARACHY, aged 20 years.

**CURRENT VALUE OF GOVERNMENT SECURITIES.**

Remittable, .....	Premium (Holiday), .....	30	0	a	31	0
Non-Remittable, Certificates, 6 p. ct., ditto, ..		6	0	a	7	0